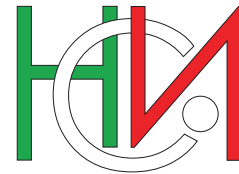


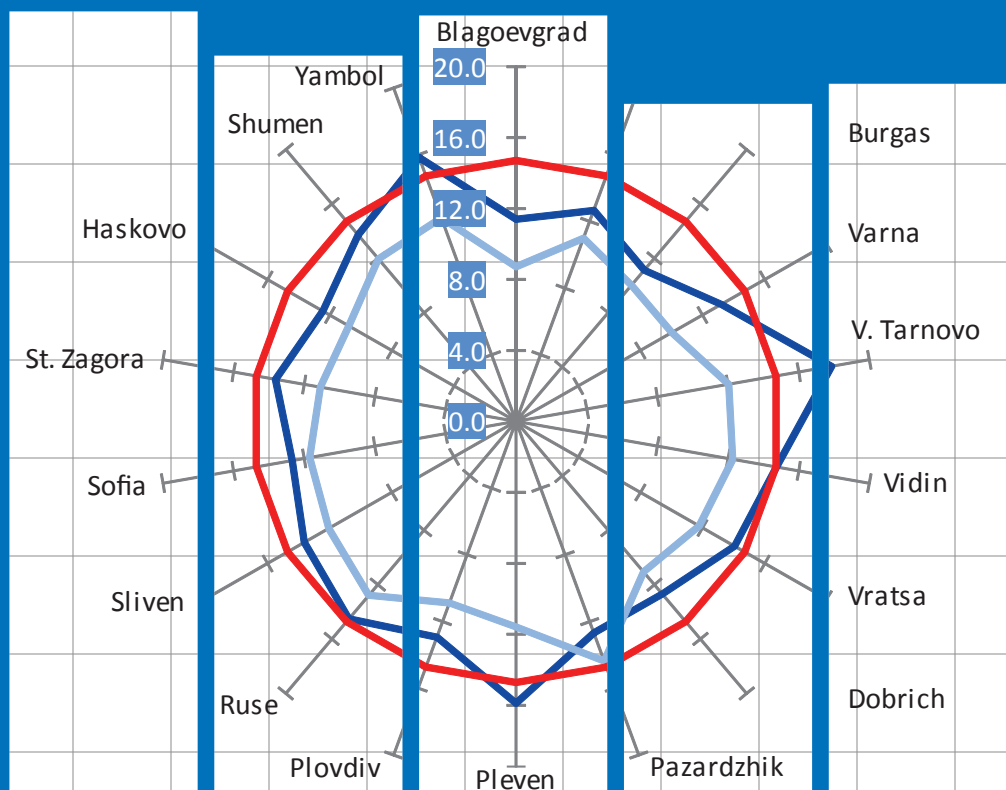


European  
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# CITIES AND THEIR URBANISED AREAS IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA 2010 - 2016





# **CITIES AND THEIR URBANISED AREAS IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA 2010 - 2016**

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NATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

CITIES AND THEIR URBANISED AREAS IN  
THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA 2010 - 2016

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## INTRODUCTION

The project purpose is to ensure reliable and comparable in respect geography and time information on cities and their functional urban zones based on basic demographic and socio-economic indicators.

The project started with a pilot survey conducted in 1999. The first full coverage Urban Audit is conducted in 2003, incorporating the 15 member states at that time. In 2004 ten new member states started their activities on the project, incl. Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey. The second exhaustive data collection Urban Audit 2006/2007 covers 321 European cities within EU-27 (8 of these are the largest Bulgarian cities) and 36 cities in Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. Urban Audit 2009 collected data on 329 variables and on 323 cities in the EU, as well as 47 in Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and Croatia.

Urban Audit methodology and information are constantly developed keeping its basic concepts. The changes aimed at optimizing the comparability, quality and availability of data. New information needs emerging for the purposes of the European Union's urban, regional and cohesion policy are reflected.

Since 2010 the National Statistical Institute has provided information on 18 cities and 17 territories comprised of 58 municipalities, forming their hinterland. For the Republic of Bulgaria, these are the cities of Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna, Bourgas, Plevna, Rousse, Vidin, Stara Zagora, Sliven, Dobrich, Shumen, Pernik, Yambol, Haskovo, Pazardzhik, Blagoevgrad, Veliko Tarnovo and Vratsa and their Functional Urban Areas (FUAs).

In 2016, the BNSI started work on the next project wave, aiming to collect data for 2015 - 2016 period. This would allow not only to continue the work done in the previous years, but also to track changes in the demographic and economic development of cities and their FUAs. Thus, sustainability is achieved in the production and dissemination of comparable statistics for cities at a European level.

The tendencies in the development of demographic processes and changes in the population structures are the basis for important socio-political and economic challenges in modern Bulgaria.

The main purpose of this publication is to track changes in urban development over the period 2010 - 2012 to 2015 - 2016 based on tabular and graphical presentation of the collected statistical information.



## I. TENDENCIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF POPULATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

The average annual population of the Republic of Bulgaria in the period 2010 - 2012 is 7 420 thousand. Due to the negative natural growth and international migration, the population decreased by 267 thousand and in the period 2015 - 2016 decreased to 7 153 thousand. Urban population decreased by 119 thousand and rural one - by 148 thousand. The relative growth of the average annual population for the whole period is minus 3.6%.

## Population at 31.12. by years and sex

Years	Total	Male	Female	
2001	7891095	3841163	4049932	Number of male population decreased by 124 thousand, while of female - by 143 thousand. The population structure by sex remains the same over the whole period - 48.6% male and 51.2% - female.  Population density in the first period is 67 persons per sq.km and in the second one - 64.
2005	7718750	3743327	3975423	
2010 <sup>1</sup>	7504868	3629809	3875059	
2011 <sup>1</sup>	7327224	3566767	3760457	
2012 <sup>1</sup>	7284552	3545073	3739479	
2013	7245677	3524945	3720732	
2014	7202198	3502015	3700183	
2015 <sup>1</sup>	7153784	3477177	3676607	
2016 <sup>1</sup>	7101859	3449978	3651881	

## Natural population growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population number	7420100	7152600
o urban	5352300	5233000
o rural	2067800	1919600
Average annual number of live births	71827	65467
o urban	54044	49110
o rural	17783	16358
Average annual number of deaths	109235	108849
o urban	65758	67471
o rural	43477	41378
Crude birth rate <sup>2</sup> - ‰	9.7	9.2
o urban	10.1	9.4
o rural	8.6	8.5
TFR - number of children	1.50	1.53
Crude birth rate for EU-28	10.0‰ in 2015	
TFR for EU-28	1.58 children in 2015	
Crude death rate <sup>3</sup> - ‰	14.7	15.2
o urban	12.3	12.9
o rural	21.0	21.5
Standardised death rate <sup>4</sup> - ‰	x	16.2
o urban	13.98	14.25
o rural	15.85	17.0

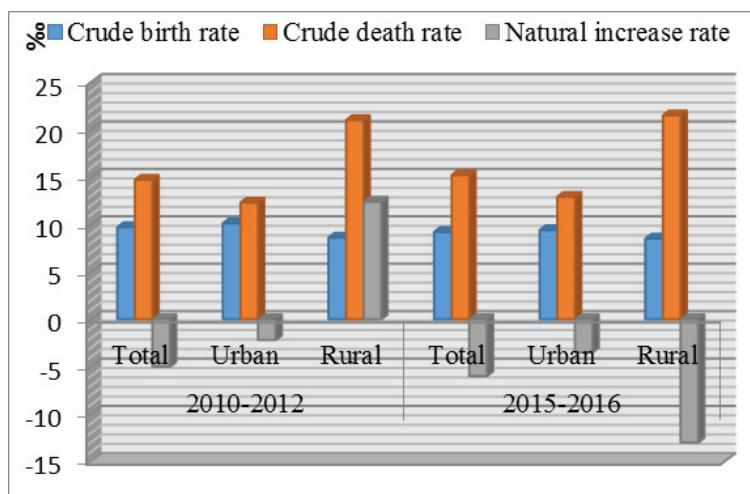
<sup>1</sup> Mentioned years are part of the Urban Audit data collection.

<sup>2</sup> Average annual number of live births per 1 000 average annual population.

<sup>3</sup> Average annual number of deaths per 1 000 average annual population.

<sup>4</sup> Country population for the respective year is taken as a standard.

Premature mortality rate- %	23.0	21.6
o urban	25.7	23,6
o rural	18.8	18.2
Infant mortality rate - ‰	8.5	6.5
o urban	7.6	5.5
o rural	11.3	9.7
Life expectancy - years	74.02	74.65
o urban	74.92	75.54
o rural	72.00	72.62
<i>Crude mortality rate for EU-28</i>	<i>10.2‰ in 2015</i>	
<i>Life expectancy for EU-28</i>	<i>80.6 years</i>	
Absolute natural growth - number	-37408	-43381
o urban	-11714	-18361
o rural	-25694	-25020
Natural growth rate - ‰	-5.0	-6.0
o urban	-2.2	-3.5
o rural	-12.4	-13.0
<i>Natural growth rate for EU-28</i>	<i>-0.2‰ in 2015</i>	



Crude birth, mortality and natural growth rate (‰)

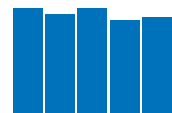
Number of live births during the observed period decreased. Crude birth rate decreased regardless the light increase of fertility.

The number of deaths decreased, but the mortality rate increased. The discrepancy between the standardised mortality rates in urban and rural areas increased. In the period 2010 - 2012, the last is 1.87‰, while in 2015 - 2016 - 2.60‰. In urban areas the increase is by 0.27‰, and in rural - 1‰.

Mortality rate among males remains higher (15.9 and 16.3‰ for the 2 periods) than among females - 13.7% and 14.2‰ respectively.

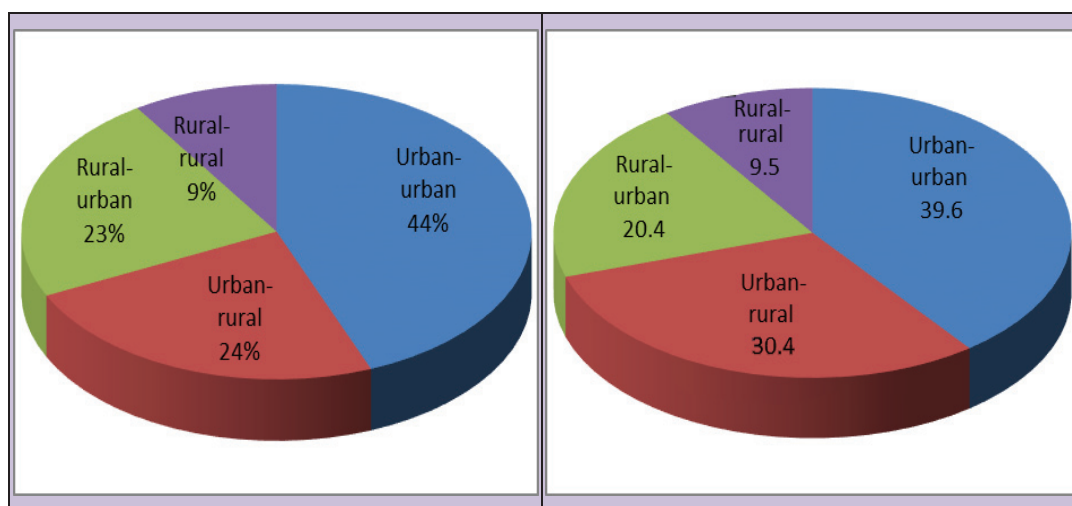
Premature mortality decreased slightly. It is 2 times higher among male (30.5% and 28.5% for the 2 periods) than among females - 14.8% and 14.0% respectively.

The negative natural growth increased in absolute and relative figures.



### Migration

Internal and international migration	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average number of migrations within the country	108179	107608
○ from urban to urban areas	47566	42660
○ from urban to rural areas	25846	32755
○ from rural to urban areas	24809	21958
○ from rural to rural areas	9958	10236
Average number of emigrants	17947	30020
○ male	8634	15377
○ female	9312	14644
Intensity of emigration - ‰	2.42	4.20
Average number of immigrants	7448	23232
○ male	4165	12217
○ female	3283	11015
Intensity of immigration - ‰	1.00	3.24
Average annual internal migration growth	-10499	-6788
Relative migration growth - ‰	-1.41	-0.95
○ male	-1.24	-0.91
○ female	-1.58	-0.99



Structure of internal migration by directions - %



The number of international migrants increased, but the negative migration growth decreased in absolute and relative figures. Through the whole period, the international migration decreased the population number, worsened its age structure and reproduction capacity due to emigration of young population. Just for the last two years, the country population decreased by nearly 14 thousand due to international migration.

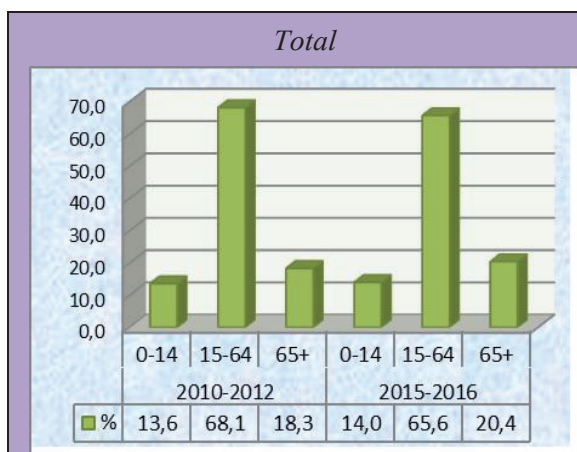
### *Age structure*

Population age structure and dependency ratios	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average number of population at age:		
○ 0 to 14 years	1007150	999140
○ 15 to 64 years	5054490	4695390
○ 65 years and over	1358460	1458070
Share of population aged 65 and over - %	18.3	20.4
Median age - years	42.5	43.5
Age dependency ratio <sup>5</sup> - %	46.8	52.3
Demographic replacement rate <sup>6</sup> - %	71.7	62.7
<i>Share of population aged 65 and over in EU-28</i>	<i>18.9% in 2015</i>	
<i>Median age of EU-28 population</i>	<i>42.5 years in 2015</i>	

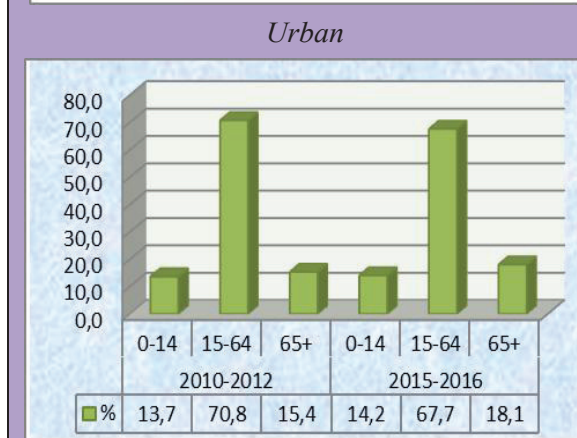
<sup>5</sup> Number of persons in 'dependent' ages (persons under 15 years of age and 65 and more) per 100 persons in 'independent' ages (persons aged 15 to 64 years) calculated in percentage.

<sup>6</sup> Ratio between the number of persons entering working age (15 - 19 years) and number of persons exiting it (60 - 64 years).

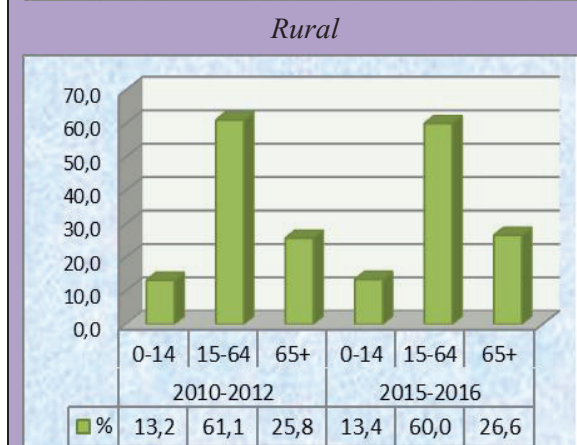
Structure of average annual population by age



Population aging continued. Share of population aged 65 and over increased, while the the number and share of population at working age (15 - 64 years) decreased. The last is most obvious among rural population.

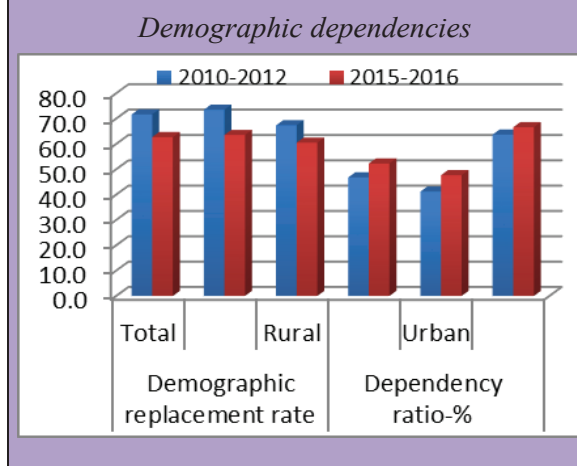


There is a slight increase of the share of youngest population (0 - 14 years) in urban areas mainly.



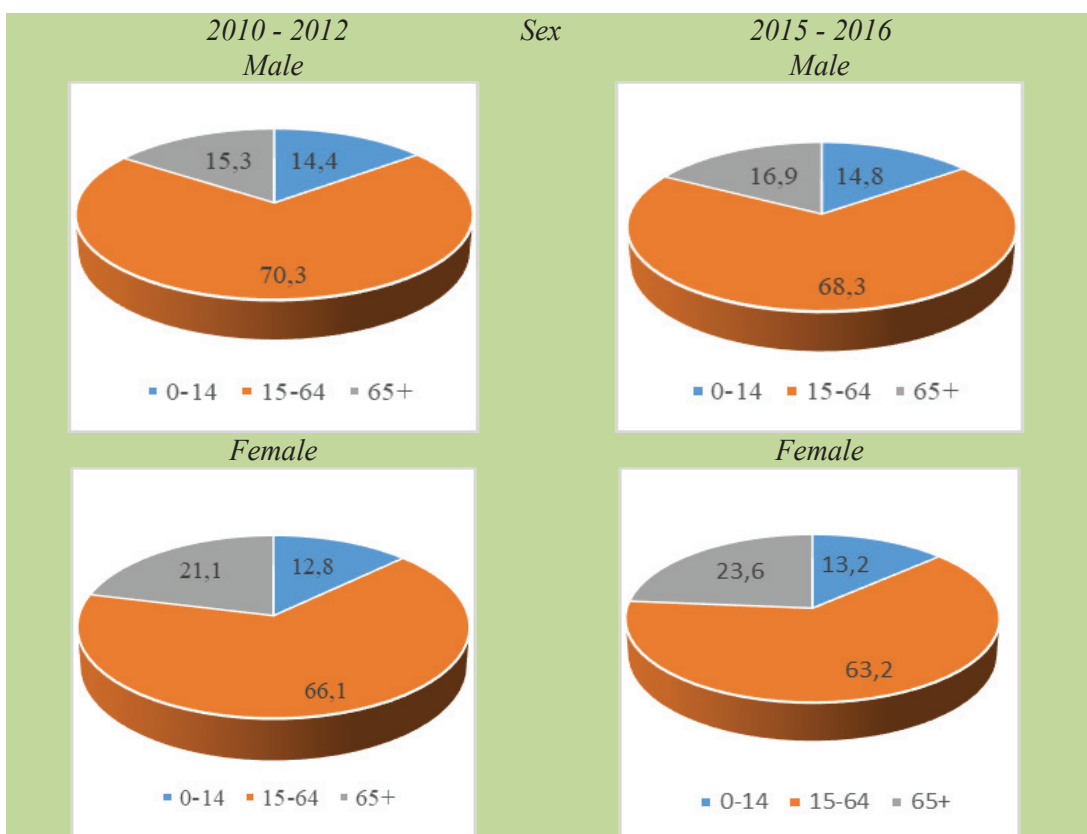
Population aging of female is higher than of male. The difference is mainly due to the higher overall and premature mortality among male and as a result - lower life expectancy. Moreover, the intensity of the negative international migration growth among female is higher.

Median population age increased by 1 year for the observed period.



The demographic burden rate of working age population increased. Higher is the increase of the demographic dependency in urban areas - from 41.2% in 2010 - 2012 period to 47.7% in 2015 - 2016. In rural areas, this rate increased less, but has higher value - 63.7% and 66.6% respectively.

Due to the negative demographic development, the reproduction of labour force is not ensured. The demographic replacement rate in urban areas decreased from 73.5% in 2010 - 2012 to 63.5% in 2015 - 2016 and in rural ones - from 70.0% to 66.6%.

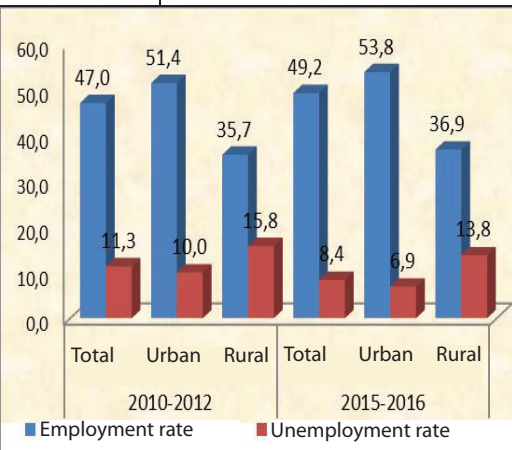


**Economic activity**

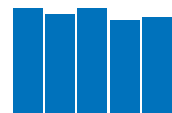
Economic activity, employment and unemployment	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Labour force - Average annual number - thousand	3371	3300
Employed - average annual number - thousand	2991	3024
Unemployed - average annual number - thousand	380	276
Economic activity rate - %	53.0	53.7
Employment rate - %	47.0	49.2
Unemployment rate - %	11.3	8.4

The number of economically active population (labour force) decreased. The labour market development provided higher employment and thus the number of employed increased. Employment rate among population aged 15 - 64 years increased from 59.0% in 2010 - 2012 to 63.2% in 2015 - 2016. In urban areas, the respective figures are from 61.9% to 66.8%, and in rural - from 50.1% to 52%.

The unemployment rate total for the country decreased from 11.4% to 8.5%; in urban areas the respective values are 10.0% and 7.0%, and in rural - 16.0% and 14.0%

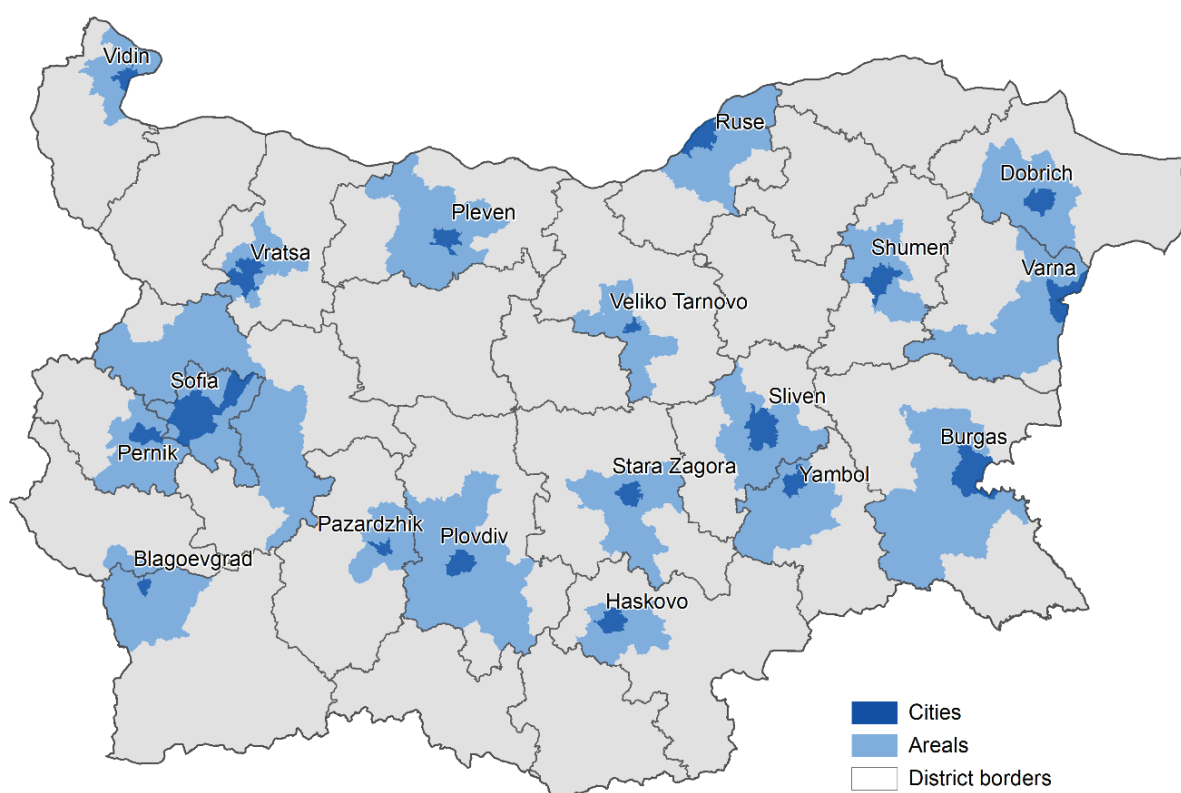


Total for the population aged 15 and over



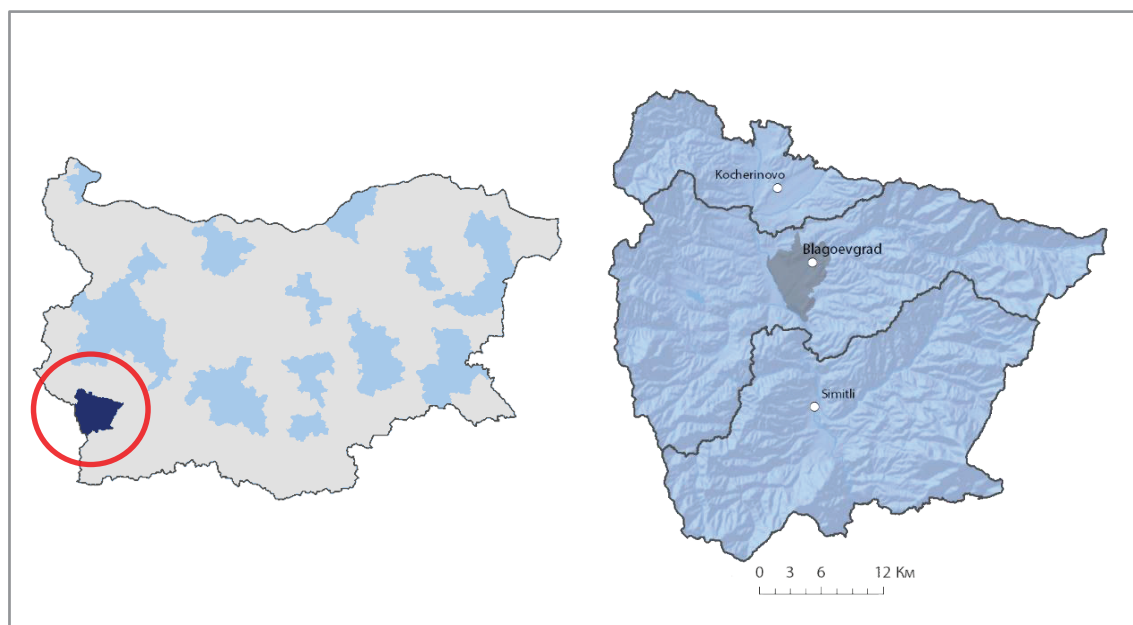
## II. DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AREAS

According to the project Urban-Audit 2012 criteria, 17 areals are created in the Republic of Bulgaria and 18 cities are defined having great importance for the country economic and regional development. The average annual population living there in the period 2010 - 2012 is 4 261 thousand and in 2015 - 2016 - 4 202 thousand. The areals cover 25% of the country territory (27 914 sq. km) and 59.1% of the population during the last observed period. The biggest part of the areals population (77.8%) lives in their urbanised centers.



Geographical location of areas and their centers

### Areal with center city of Blagoevgrad



**Figure II.1.1. Area of Blagoevgrad - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods**

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
BLG03	Blagoevgrad	620.1	76927	124	75929	122
BLG44	Simitli	553.0	14486	26	13720	25
KNL27	Kocherinovo	182.3	5460	30	4766	26
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>1355.4</b>	<b>96873</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>94414</b>	<b>70</b>

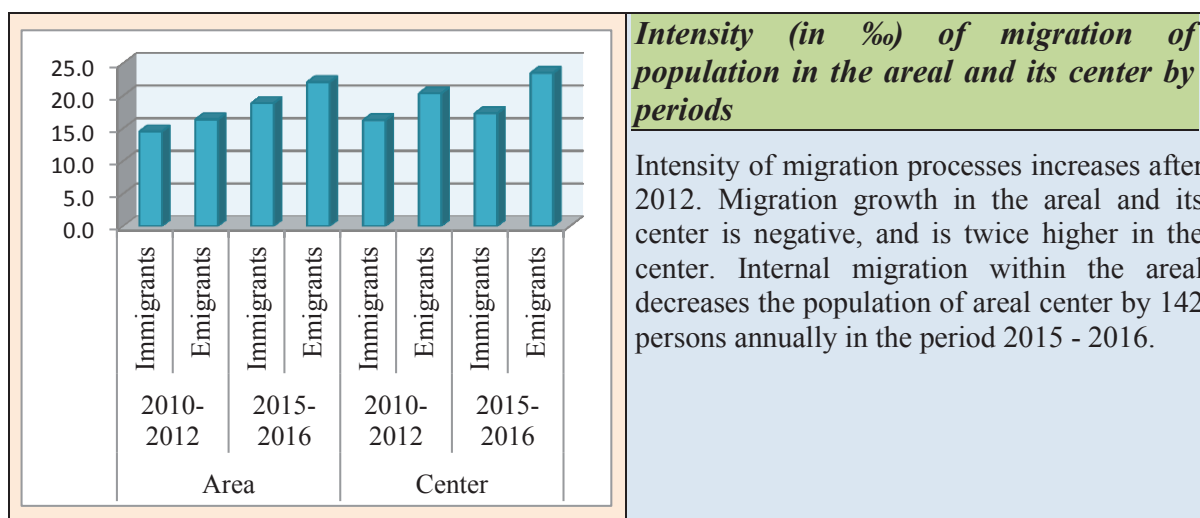
### Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	96873	94414
○ male	46723	45334
○ female	50150	49080
Average number of live births	949	932
Average number of deaths	1104	1158
Absolute natural growth - number	-155	-226
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.80	9.87
Crude death rate - ‰	11.40	12.27
Natural growth rate - ‰	-1.60	-2.39
Average annual population of the areal center	70466	69589
○ male	33631	32986
○ female	36835	36603
Average annual number of births in the areal center	742	731
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	615	664
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	127	67
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	10.53	10.50
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	8.73	9.54
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	1.80	0.96

The average annual population of the areal decreases by 2.5 thousand. Crude birth rate is higher than the country average and crude death rate is lower, but the last increases during the period, thus contributing to the negative population growth. The natural growth of areal center, city of Blagoevgrad is positive, but decreases also and is below 1‰.

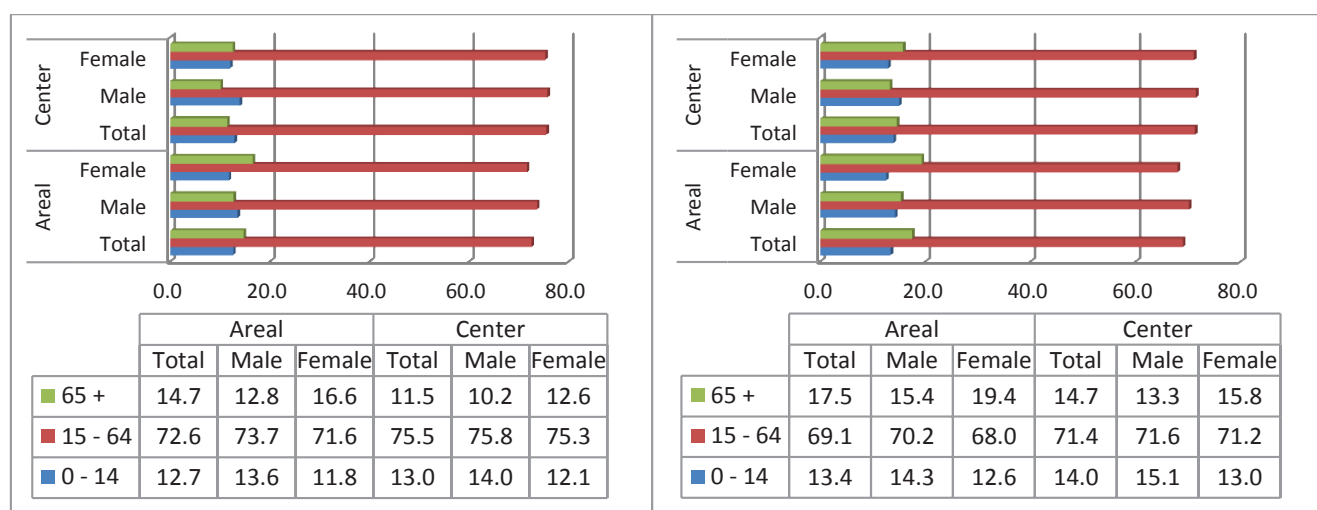
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	1410	1782
Average annual number of emigrants	1590	2086
Absolute migration growth	-180	-304
Migration growth rate - ‰	-1.84	-3.23
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	1146	1205
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1435	1635
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-289	-430
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-4.10	-6.18



### Age structure

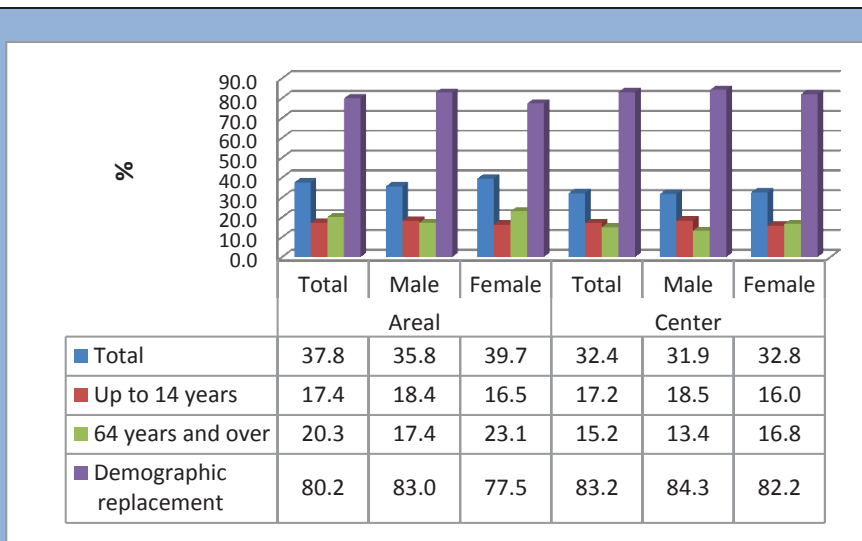
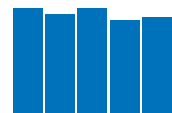
Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	12268	12676
Population aged 15 - 64 years	70317	65231
Population aged 65 and over	14287	16508
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	9165	9730
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	53229	49659
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	8072	10200
Mean age of areal population - years	40.7	42.2
Mean age of areal center population - years	39.0	40.7



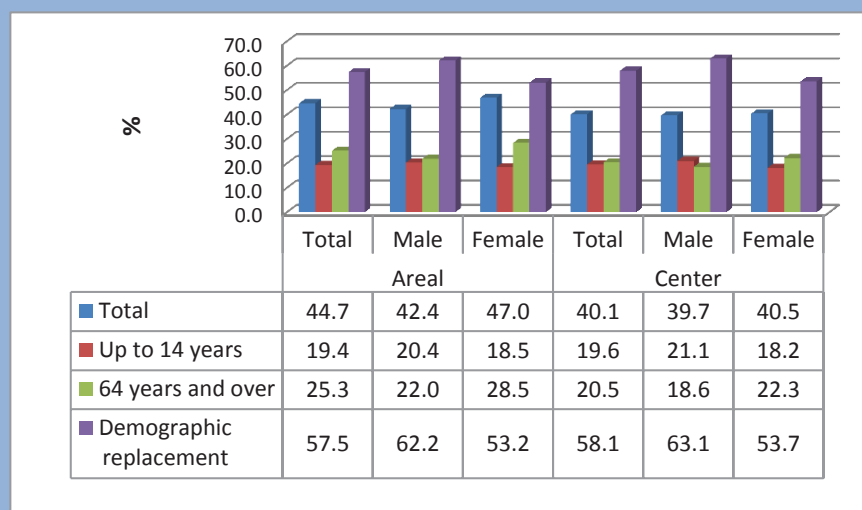
2010 - 2012

2015 - 2016

*Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center*



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

**Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex**

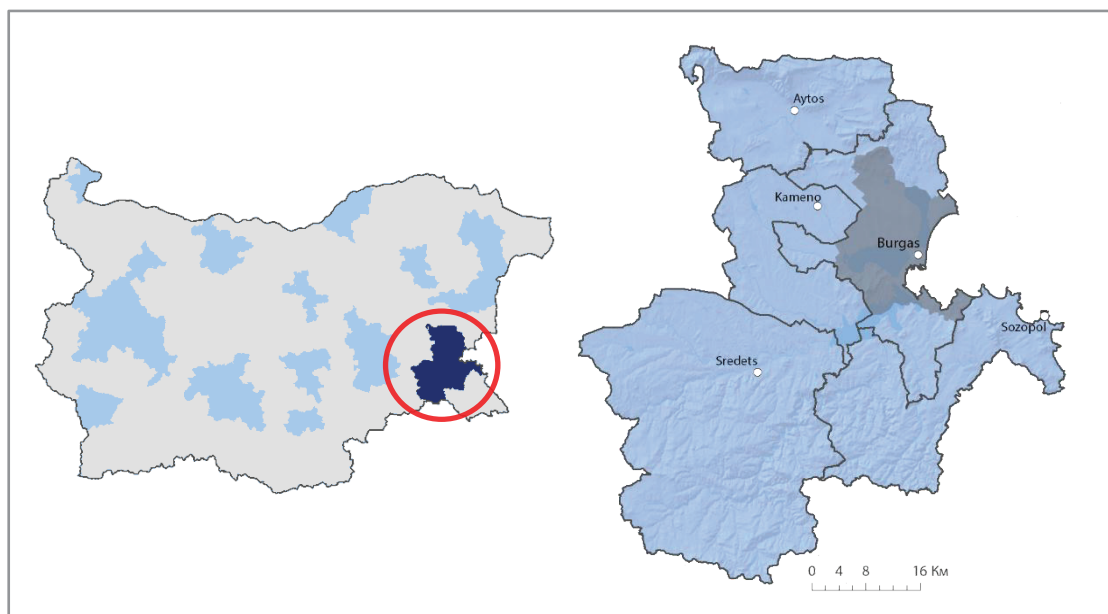
Share of population aged 65 and over increases by about 3%. The last is observed both in the areal and its center. Share of population aged 0 to 14 increases a bit, resulting from higher fertility in previous periods. Respectively, share of working age population decreases. Total for the areal the decrease is by 3.5%, while in its center (city of Blagoevgrad) - by 4.1%.

Demographic burden rate is worsening. Number of persons in dependent ages corresponding to 100 persons in independent ages increases by 7 in the areal and 8 in its center.

Demographic replacement rate in the areal decreases by 28%, and in its center by nearly 30%.



## Areal with center city of Burgas



*Figure II.2.1. Area of Burgas - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods*

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
BGS01	Aytos	402.9	29508	73	28231	70
BGS04	Burgas	559.2	209224	374	209472	375
BGS08	Kameno	354.9	11258	32	10121	29
BGS21	Sozopol	480.1	14020	29	12771	27
BGS06	Sredets	1149.9	15468	14	14906	13
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>2947.0</b>	<b>279478</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>275500</b>	<b>93</b>

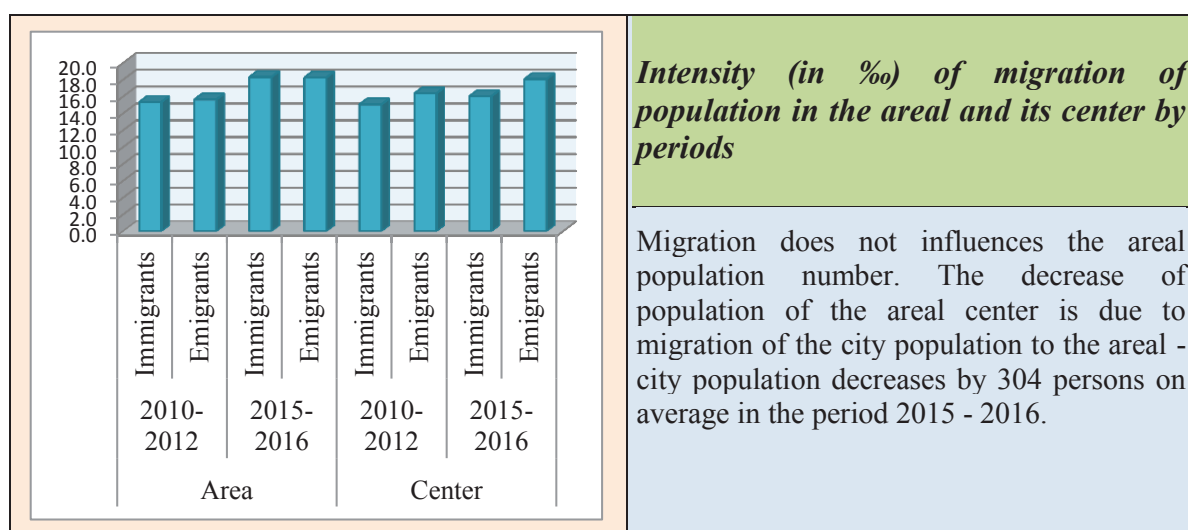
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	279477	275500
○ male	135453	132691
○ female	144025	142809
Average number of live births	2874	2674
Average number of deaths	3537	3556
Absolute natural growth - number	-155	-882
Crude birth rate - ‰	10.28	9.71
Crude death rate - ‰	12.66	12.90
Natural growth rate - ‰	-2.37	-3.20
Average annual population of the areal center	196491	202892
○ male	94589	96872
○ female	10192	106020
Average annual number of births in the areal center	1956	1883
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	2158	2300
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	127	-417
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	9.96	9.28
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	10.98	11.13
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-1.03	-2.05

Fertility and mortality indicators in the areal are more favourable compared to the county ones, but nevertheless the average annual population decreases by nearly 4 thousand between the two periods. Crude birth rate decreases slightly, while mortality increases. As a result, in 2015 - 2016 the natural growth increases its negative value. Negative is and the natural growth in the areal center - city of Burgas.

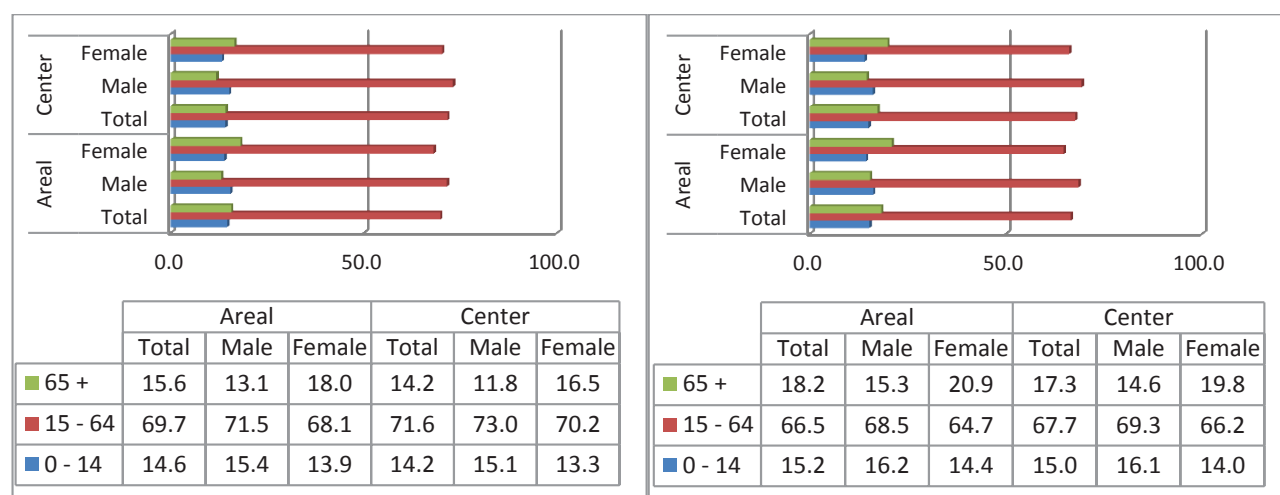
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	4294	5049
Average annual number of emigrants	4376	5035
Absolute migration growth	-82	14
Migration growth rate - ‰	-0.03	0.05
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	2962	3257
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	3220	3671
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-258	-414
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-0.13	-2.04



### Age structure

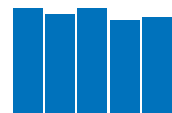
Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	40905	41992
Population aged 15 - 64 years	194924	183306
Population aged 65 and over	43648	50202
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	27839	30494
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	140669	137302
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	27983	14099
Mean age of areal population - years	41.0	42.2
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.7	42.0



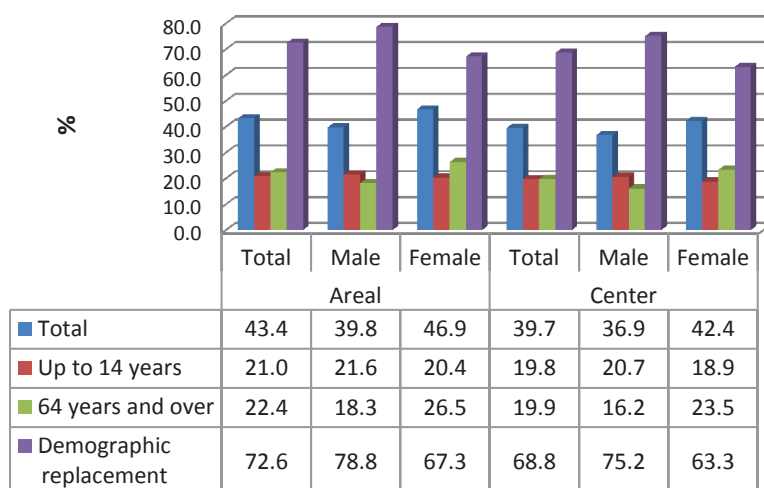
2010 - 2012

2015 - 2016

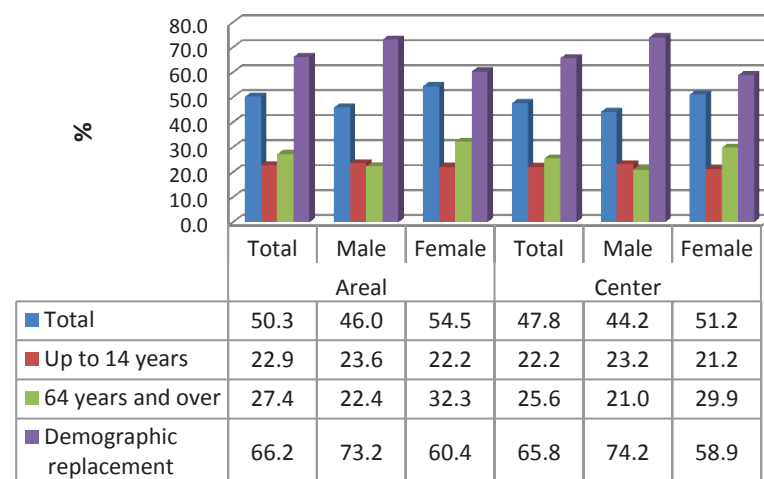
Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



*Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex*



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

Changes of the age structure are expressed by insignificant increase of the share of population up to 14 years of age, decrease of population aged 15 - 64 and increase of the eldest population. The last is characteristic both for the areal and its center. The decrease of working age population in areal center is higher. Mean age of both areal and its center population increases by more than 1 year.

For the whole period nearly by 7 persons increases the number of persons in dependent ages per 100 persons aged 15 - 64 years. Worsening of the reproduction of labour force is observed. In 2015 - 2016, each 100 persons exiting working age are replaced by 66 persons aged 15 - 19 or 6 less compared to 2010 - 2012.

## Areal with center city of Varna

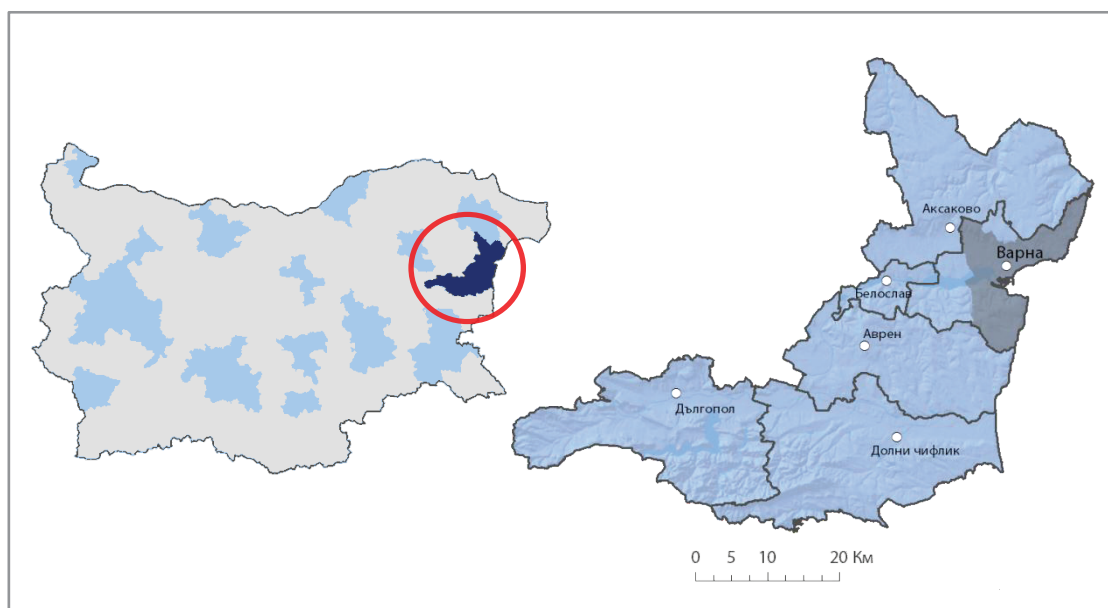


Figure II.3.1. Area of Varna - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016		
		Population	Density	Population	Density	
VAR01	Avren	353.8	8835	25	9603	27
VAR02	Aksakovo	460.5	21218	46	20934	45
VAR04	Beloslav	60.1	11117	185	10654	177
VAR06	Varna	237.5	336677	1418	343646	1447
VAR13	Dolni chiflik	485.1	19228	40	18838	39
VAR16	Dalgopol	440.9	14227	32	13647	31
<b>Areal</b>		<b>2037.9</b>	<b>411302</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>417321</b>	<b>205</b>

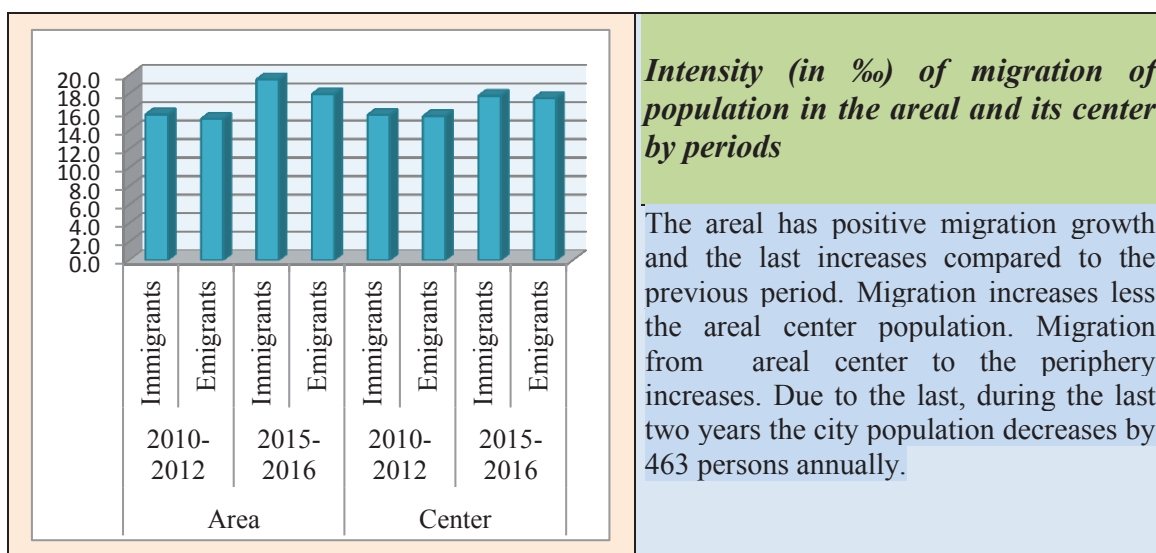
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	411301	417321
○ male	200367	203195
○ female	210934	214126
Average number of live births	4455	3978
Average number of deaths	4574	4962
Absolute natural growth - number	-119	-984
Crude birth rate - ‰	10.83	9.53
Crude death rate - ‰	11.12	11.89
Natural growth rate - ‰	-0.29	-2.36
Average annual population of the areal center	328088	334822
○ male	159148	162121
○ female	168940	172701
Average annual number of births in the areal center	3612	3183
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	3282	3652
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	329	-470
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	11.01	9.51
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	10.00	10.91
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	1.00	-1.40

Areal population increases by 6 thousand or by 1.46%, but due to its migration growth. Natural growth is better than the country average, but decrease of crude birth rate and slight increase of crude death rate is observed during the last two years. Natural growth is minus 2.4‰, compared to minus 0.3‰ in the previous period. The natural growth in the areal center, city of Varna, decreases the city population by 470 persons or 1.4‰ annually, compared to positive values in the 2010 - 2012 period.

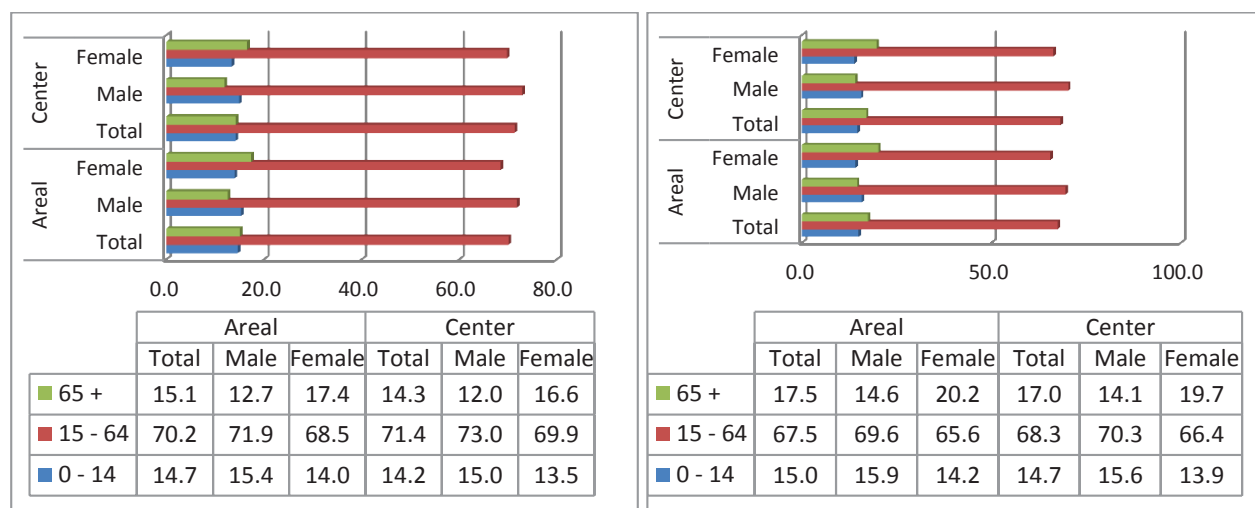
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	6479	8156
Average annual number of emigrants	6280	7491
Absolute migration growth	199	665
Migration growth rate - ‰	0.48	1.59
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	5147	5947
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	5106	5863
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	41	84
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	0.13	0.25



### Age structure

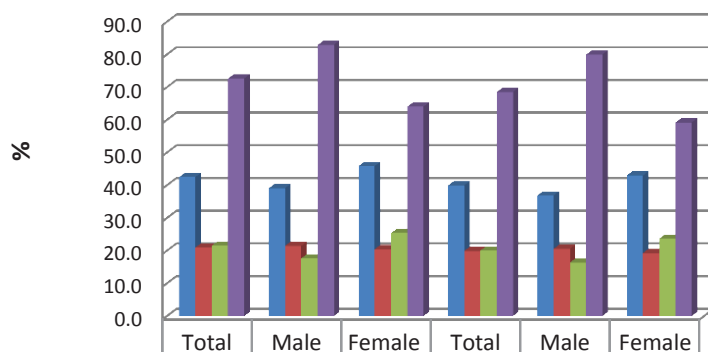
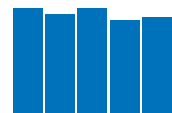
Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	60523	62638
Population aged 15 - 64 years	288586	281810
Population aged 65 and over	62193	72873
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	46717	49282
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	234320	228628
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	47050	56912
Mean age of areal population - years	40.3	41.6
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.1	41.5



2010 - 2012

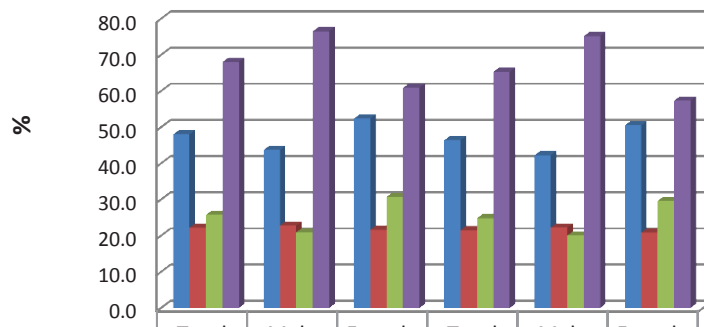
2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	42.5	39.1	45.9	40.0	36.9	43.0
Up to 14 years	21.0	21.5	20.5	19.9	20.6	19.3
64 years and over	21.6	17.7	25.4	20.1	16.4	23.7
Demographic replacement	72.7	83.0	64.1	68.6	80.0	59.2

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	48.1	43.8	52.4	46.4	42.3	50.6
Up to 14 years	22.2	22.8	21.7	21.6	22.3	20.9
64 years and over	25.9	21.0	30.8	24.9	20.1	29.7
Demographic replacement	68.1	76.6	61.0	65.4	75.3	57.4

2015 - 2016

**Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex**

Areal population aged 15 - 64 decreases by 7 thousand, while population aged 65 and over increases by more than 10 thousand or 2%. Population mean age increases by 1.4 years. These changes are mainly due to the changes of age structure of the areal center population.

Demographic burden of areal and areal center population increases. In 2015 - 2016 to each 100 persons aged 15 - 64 years correspond 48 persons in dependent ages or 6 more compared to 2010 - 2012. Demographic replacement rate also is worsening. In the areal each 100 persons exiting working age are replaced by 65 persons entering it, while in the areal center - by 68. The respective values for the previous period are 73 and 69 per 100.



## Areal with center city of Veliko Tarnovo

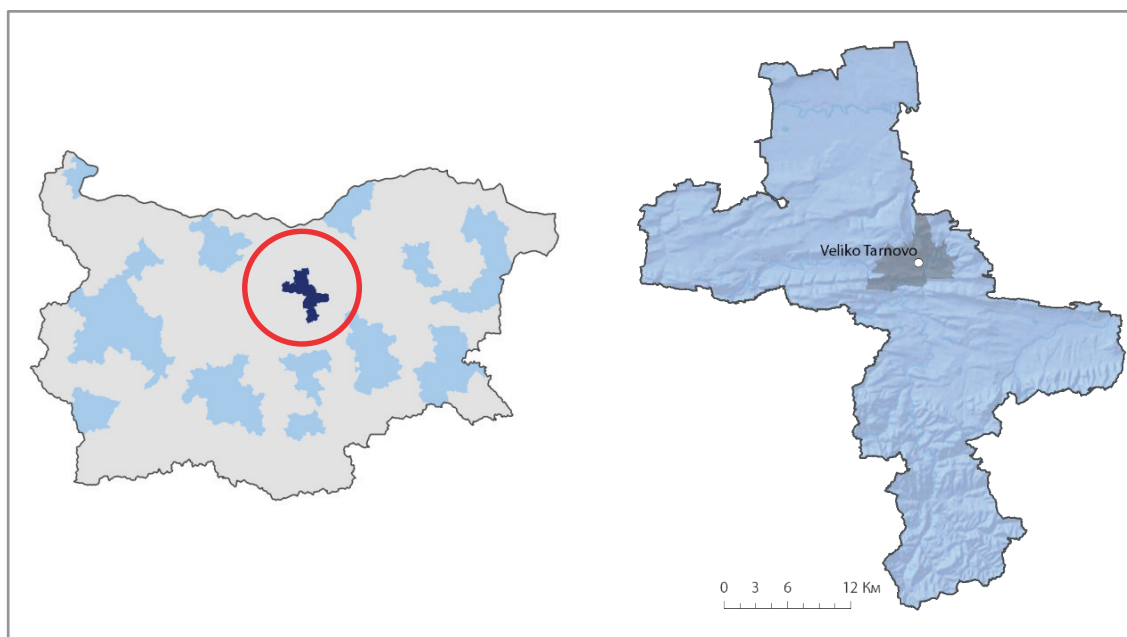


Figure II.4.1. Area of Veliko Tarnovo - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
VTR04	Veliko Tarnovo Areal	885.3	88455	100	87220	99

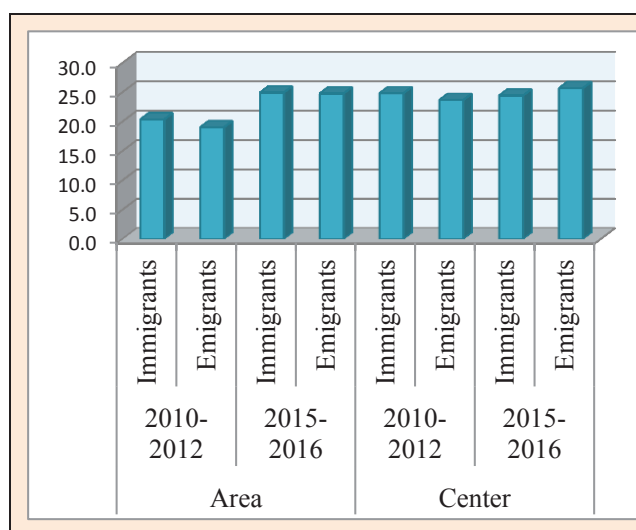
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	88455	87220
○ male	42084	41776
○ female	46371	45444
Average number of live births	806	797
Average number of deaths	1169	1113
Absolute natural growth - number	-362	-316
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.12	9.14
Crude death rate - ‰	13.21	12.76
Natural growth rate - ‰	-4.10	-3.62
Average annual population of the areal center	67978	68399
○ male	32049	32560
○ female	35929	35840
Average annual number of births in the areal center	665	667
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	681	680
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-16	-14
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	9.78	9.74
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	10.02	9.94
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-0.24	-0.20

There is certain stabilization in respect demographic development of the areal. Crude birth rate (equal to the country average) and crude death rate (lower than the country average) remain at the same levels and even show some positive developments. The last concerns both areal and its center, city of Veliko Tarnovo, populations. Natural population growth in the areal decreases its negative value, while in the city it remains at the same level.

### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	1801	2175
Average annual number of emigrants	1682	2162
Absolute migration growth	119	13
Migration growth rate - ‰	1.35	0.15
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	1687	1672
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1609	1757
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	79	-86
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	1.16	-1.25

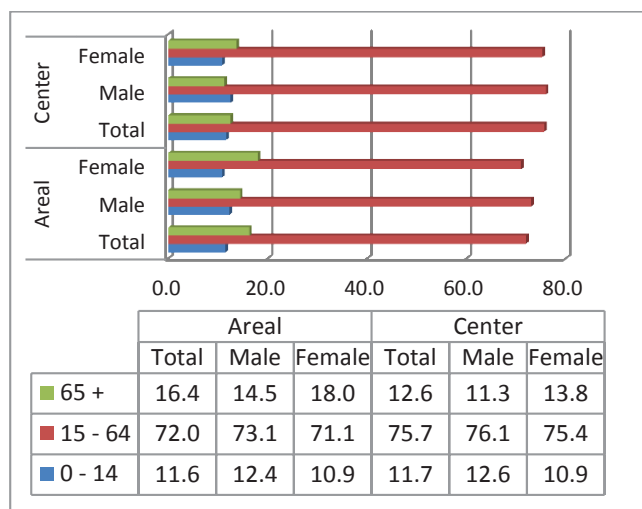


#### *Intensity (in %) of migration of population in the areal and its center by periods*

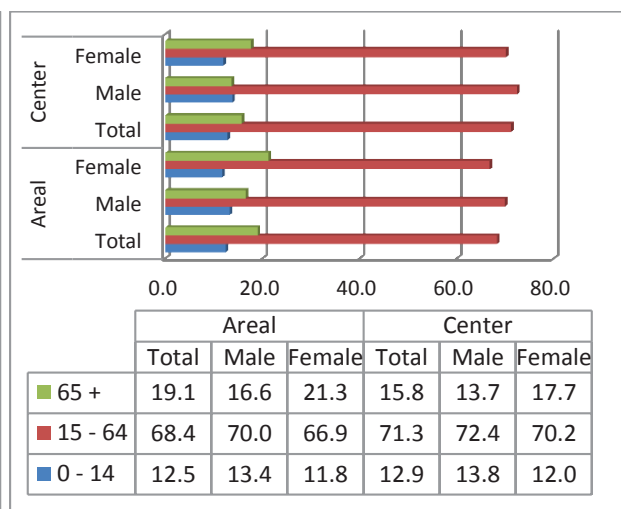
The positive migration growth of the areal population decreases. During the last two years it is negative. Migration from the areal center to the periphery increases - migration growth increases from 0.91% to 1.64% in favour to the periphery.

### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	10259	10935
Population aged 15 - 64 years	63715	59654
Population aged 65 and over	14481	16632
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	7953	8817
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	51459	48762
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	8567	10821
Mean age of areal population - years	41.7	42.6
Mean age of areal center population - years	39.8	40.9

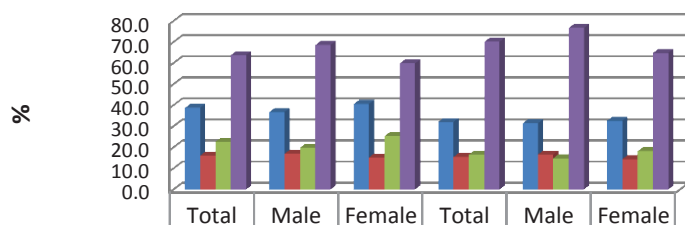
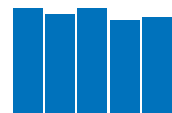


2010 - 2012



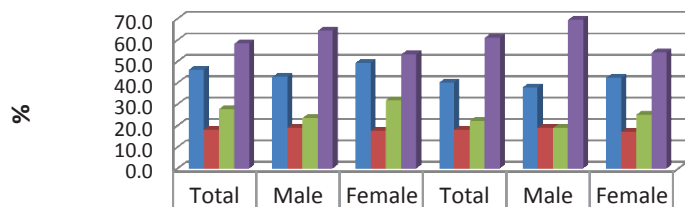
2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	38.8	36.9	40.7	32.1	31.5	32.7
Up to 14 years	16.1	17.0	15.3	15.5	16.6	14.4
64 years and over	22.7	19.9	25.4	16.6	14.9	18.3
Demographic replacement	63.9	68.7	59.9	70.2	76.8	64.9

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	46.2	42.8	49.5	40.3	38.0	42.4
Up to 14 years	18.3	19.1	17.6	18.1	19.1	17.1
64 years and over	27.9	23.7	31.9	22.2	18.9	25.2
Demographic replacement	58.5	64.5	53.4	61.2	69.6	54.3

2015 - 2016

**Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex**

Areal population aged up to 14 years increases by nearly 700 persons. Increase of the population aged 65 and over is also observed. The number and share of working age population decreases - by 4 thousand or 3%. These changes are mainly due to the changes of age structure of the areal center population. Working age population of the areal center decreases by 2 700 persons.

The demographic burden of working age population increases. In the areal to each 100 persons aged 15 - 64 years correspond 7 persons more than in the previous period, while in the areal center - 8. Demographic replacement rate decreases less in the areal - by 5.5%, than in its center - by 9% per 100 persons 60 - 64 year old.

## Areal with center city of Vidin

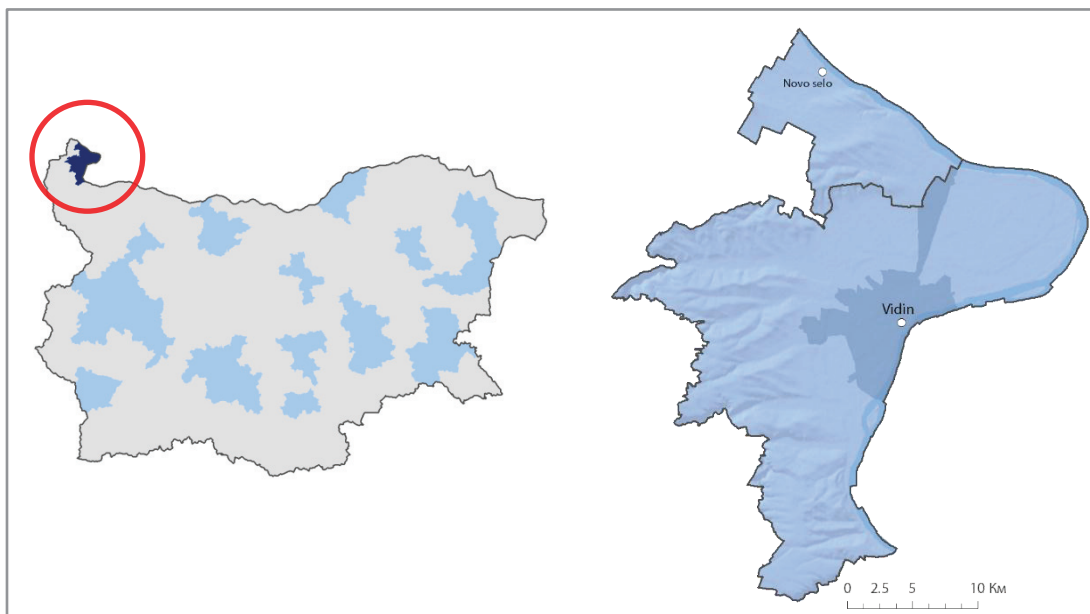


Figure II.5.1. Area of Vidin - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016		
		Population	Density	Population	Density	
VID09	Vidin	512.9	63703	124	56396	110
VID30	Novo selo	109.5	3115	29	2737	25
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>622.4</b>	<b>66818</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>59133</b>	<b>95</b>

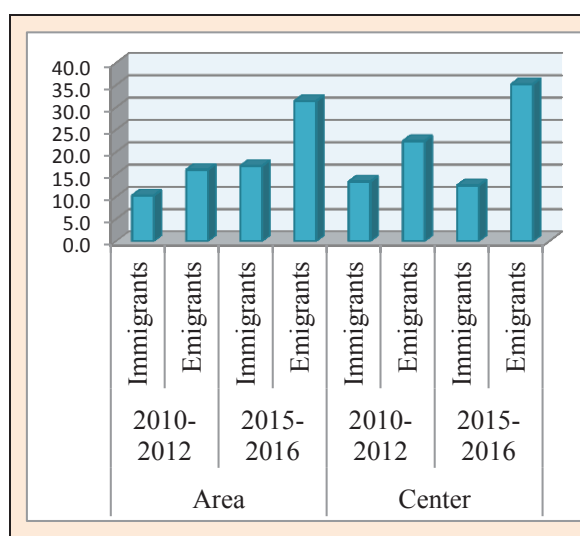
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	66818	59133
○ male	32350	28661
○ female	34469	30472
Average number of live births	494	350
Average number of deaths	1193	1122
Absolute natural growth - number	-699	-773
Crude birth rate - ‰	7.39	5.91
Crude death rate - ‰	17.85	18.97
Natural growth rate - ‰	-10.46	-13.06
Average annual population of the areal center	48138	43198
○ male	23298	20956
○ female	24841	22242
Average annual number of births in the areal center	406	286
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	580	569
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-174	-284
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	8.44	6.61
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	12.05	13.17
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-3.61	-6.56

The areal population decreases by more than 7 thousand. Crude birth rate (less than 6‰) is the lowest compared to other areals. Due to the population ageing the crude death rate is too high and the natural growth rate is minus 13‰. Natural growth rate at country level is minus 6‰ in 2015 - 2016. Demographic processes in the areal center, city of Vidin, are also negative. The demographic tendencies in the areal and its center show extremely heavy demographic crisis and unpredictable demographic perspective.

### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	687	1000
Average annual number of emigrants	1073	1860
Absolute migration growth	-386	-860
Migration growth rate - ‰	-5.78	-14.54
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	646	542
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1082	1522
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-436	-980
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-9.06	-22.67

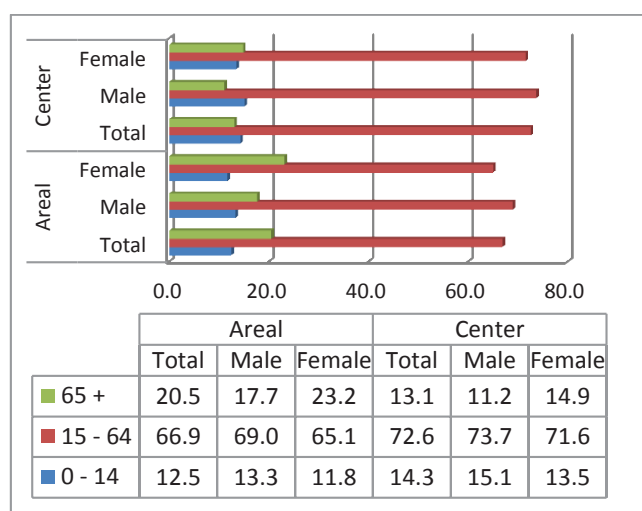


#### *Intensity (in %) of migration of population in the areal and its center by periods*

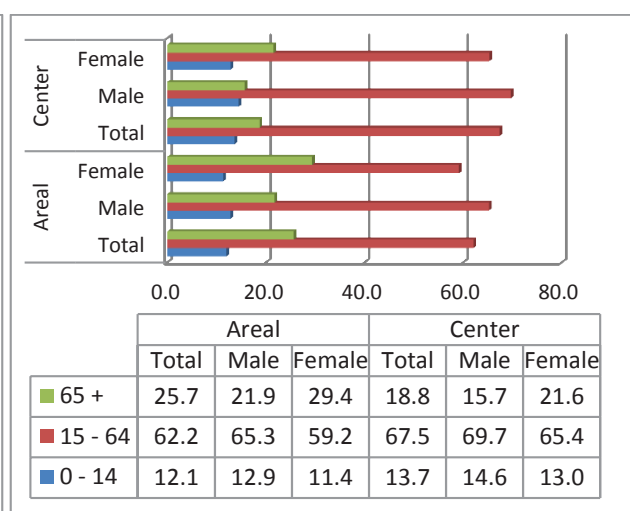
The demographic situation in the areal is worsened by the intensive emigration. Negative migration growth increases two times. Highest is the negative migration growth in the areal center -23‰. In 2015 - 2016 period the city population decreases due to emigration to the periphery by nearly -6‰ (205 persons annually).

### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	8362	7151
Population aged 15 - 64 years	44732	36766
Population aged 65 and over	13723	15216
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	6886	5935
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	34952	29155
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	6301	8109
Mean age of areal population - years	44.6	46.7
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.9	43.5

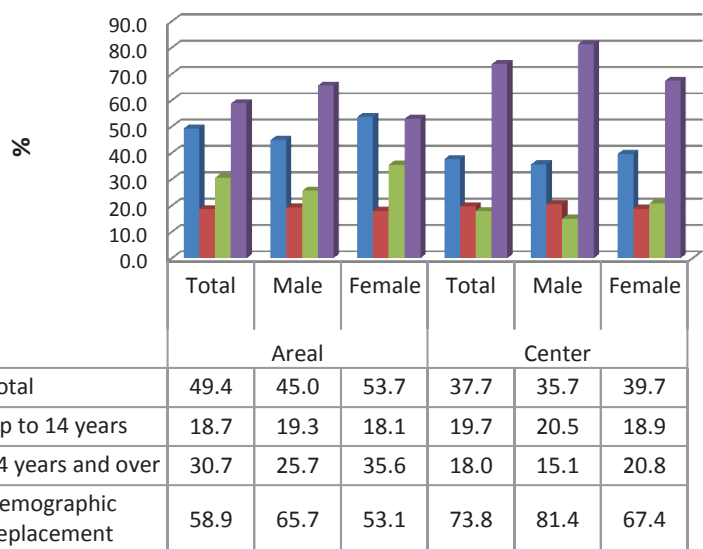
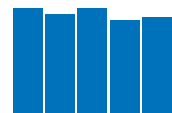


2010 - 2012

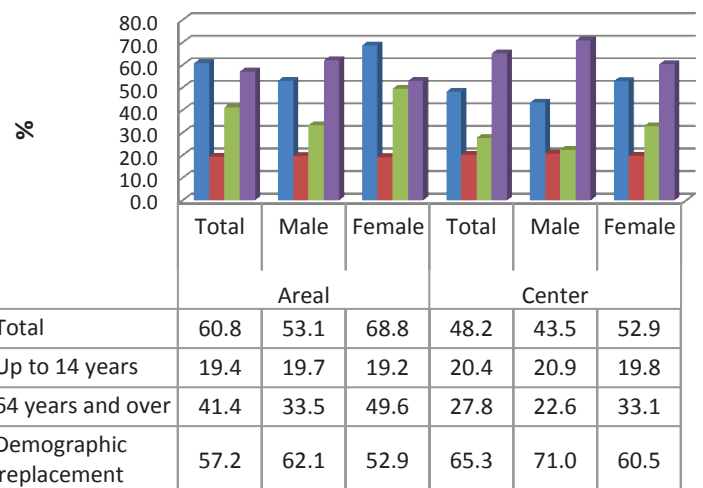


2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

*Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex*

Negative tendencies in the demographic development lead to population ageing. In 2015 - 2016 more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of population is aged 65 and over. Share of population up to 14 years of age remains the same, but is the lowest compared to the rest areals. Population aged 15 - 64 decreases by 8 thousand and represents 62%. The same tendencies are observed in the areal center. Mean age in the areal increases by 2, while in the city by 2.6 years. In city of Vidin the mean age of population (46.7 years) is highest among the observed areal centers.

Demographic dependency rate is highest among the observed areals and the demographic replacement - too low compared to the rest areals and cities.



## Areal with center city of Vratsa

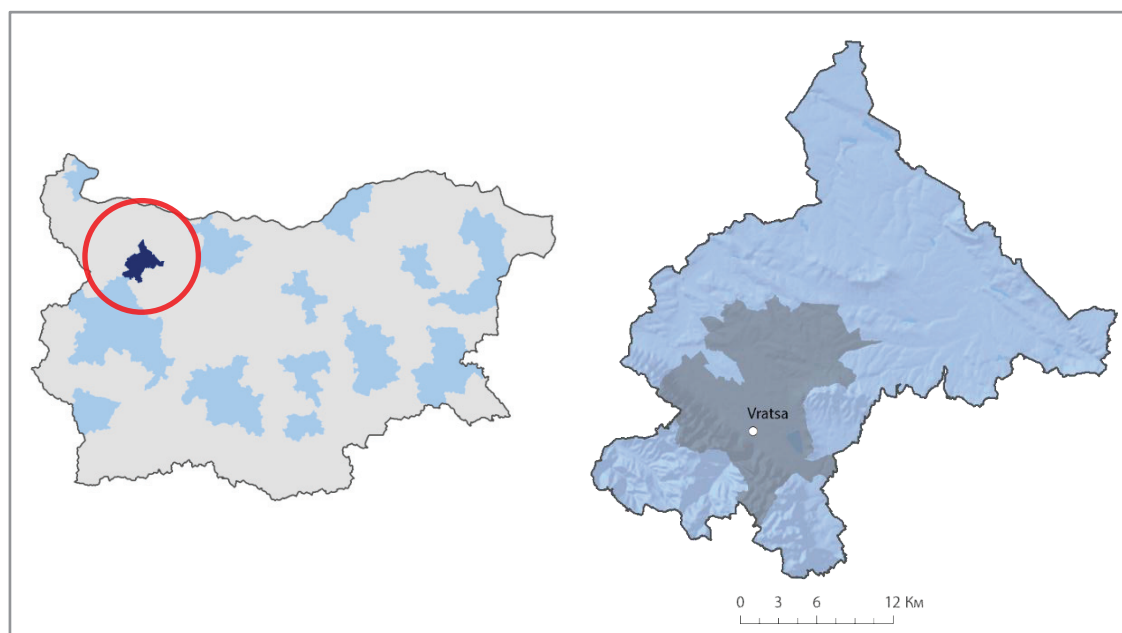


Figure II.6.1. Area of Vratsa - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
VRC10	Vratsa Areal	706.2	73767	105	66347	94

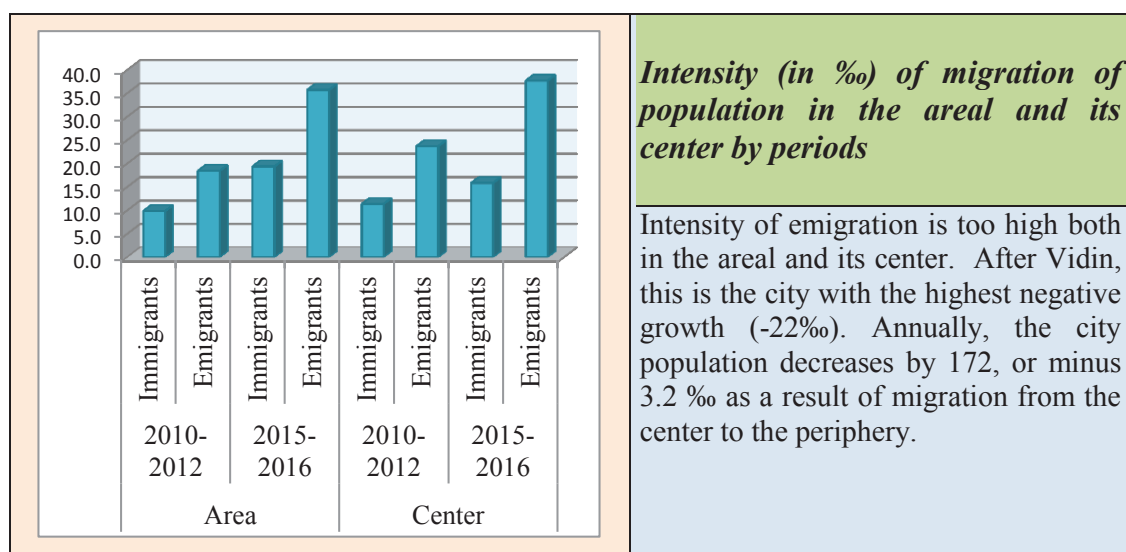
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	73767	66347
○ male	35903	32355
○ female	37864	33992
Average number of live births	574	526
Average number of deaths	1088	1040
Absolute natural growth - number	-514	-514
Crude birth rate - ‰	7.79	7.92
Crude death rate - ‰	14.75	15.67
Natural growth rate - ‰	-6.96	-7.75
Average annual population of the areal center	59835	53860
○ male	28975	26061
○ female	30859	27799
Average annual number of births in the areal center	463	423
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	734	721
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-271	-298
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	7.74	7.85
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	12.26	13.38
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-4.52	-5.52

Negative tendencies in the demographic development of areal with center city of Vratsa continue and even deepen. The population decreases by 7 500 persons. ople. The vital indicators are more negative than the total for the country. The crude death rate is increasing and despite the slight increase in birth rates, the natural growth has a high negative value which continues to increase. Similar are the trends in the areal center. The population decreases by about 6 000 people, indicating that the decrease of the areal population is mainly due to its decrease in the areal center.

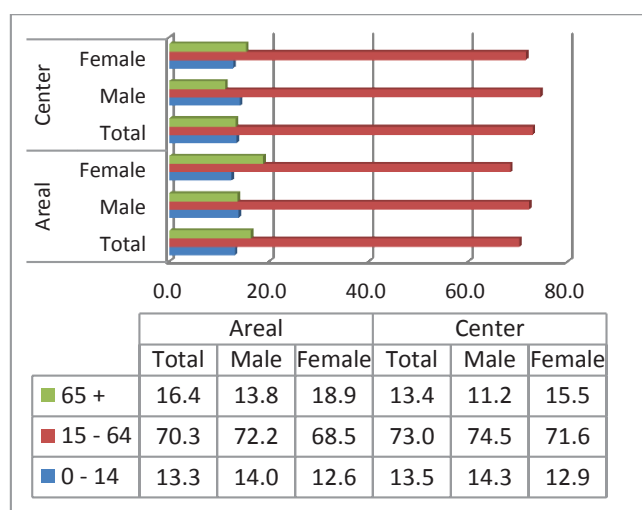
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	730	1288
Average annual number of emigrants	1363	2372
Absolute migration growth	-634	-1084
Migration growth rate - ‰	-8.59	-16.33
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	682	856
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1420	2032
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-738	-1176
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-12.33	-21.83

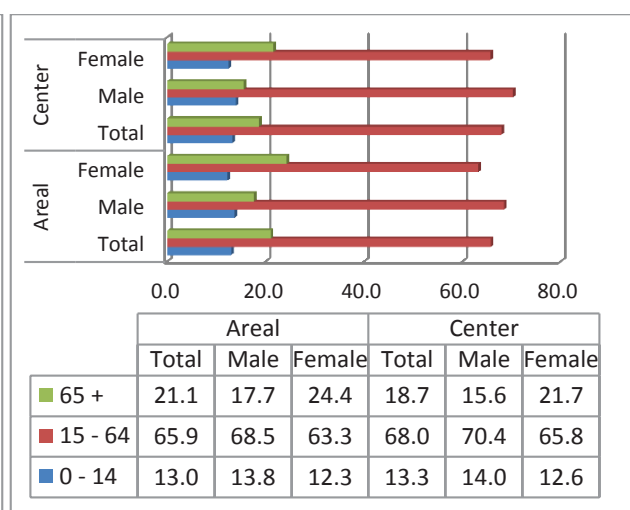


### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	9779	8657
Population aged 15 - 64 years	51882	43692
Population aged 65 and over	12106	13999
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	8107	7152
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	43687	36620
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	8041	10089
Mean age of areal population - years	42.5	44.8
Mean age of areal center population - years	41.3	43.9

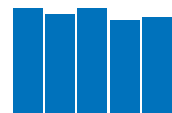


2010 - 2012

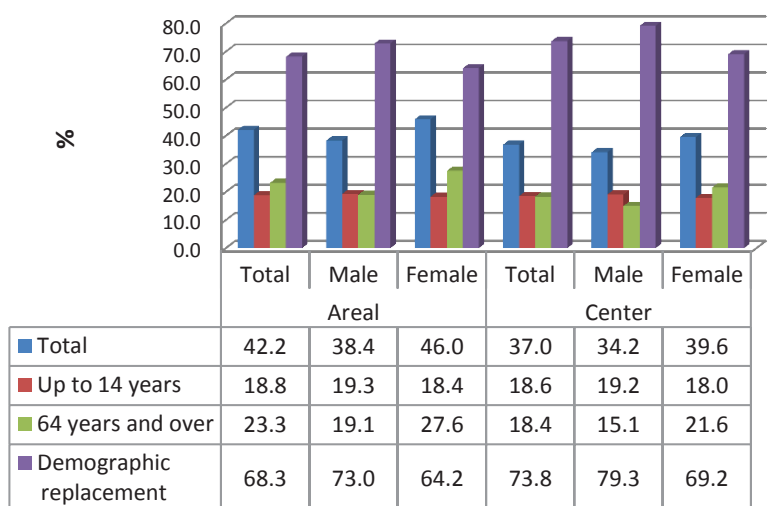


2015 - 2016

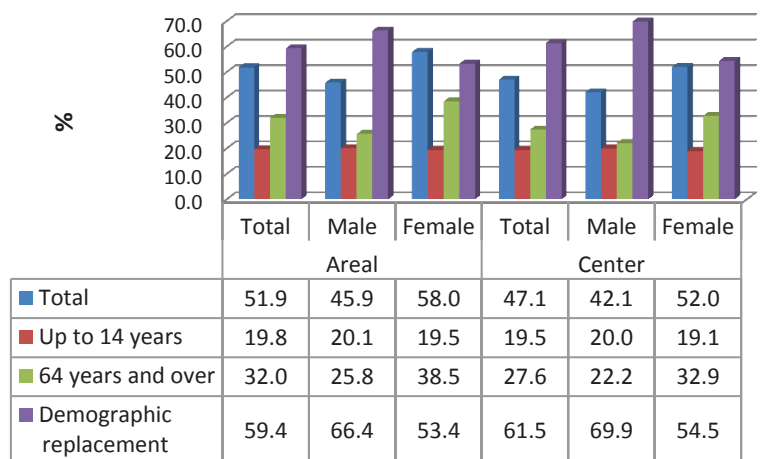
Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



**Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex**



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

Population aged 15 - 64 years decreases with more than 8 000 persons. This is mainly due to the decrease of this age group in city of Vratsa - a decrease of 7 thousand. The share of the oldest population is increasing - from 16% to 21% in the areal and from 13% to 19% in the city. The share of youngest population is around 13% in the areal and its center during both observed periods. Population aging accelerates. The mean age of population increases by more than 2 years.

Demographic dependency rate in the area and city increases by nearly 10%. Reproduction of the active population also shows a negative tendency. Demographic replacement rate decreases with 9% in the areal and 12% in the city.

## Areal with center city of Dobrich

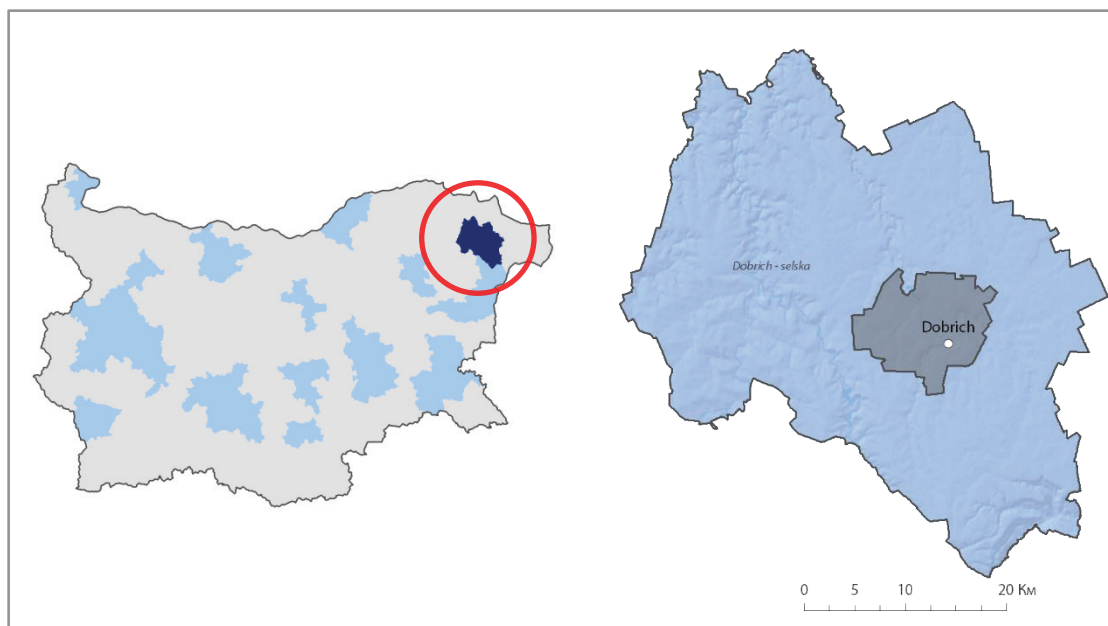


Figure II.7.1. Area of Dobrich - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
DOB15	Dobrich-selska	1296.2	22868	18	21038	16
DOB28	Dobrich	109.0	91185	836	85847	788
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>1405.2</b>	<b>114053</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>106885</b>	<b>76</b>

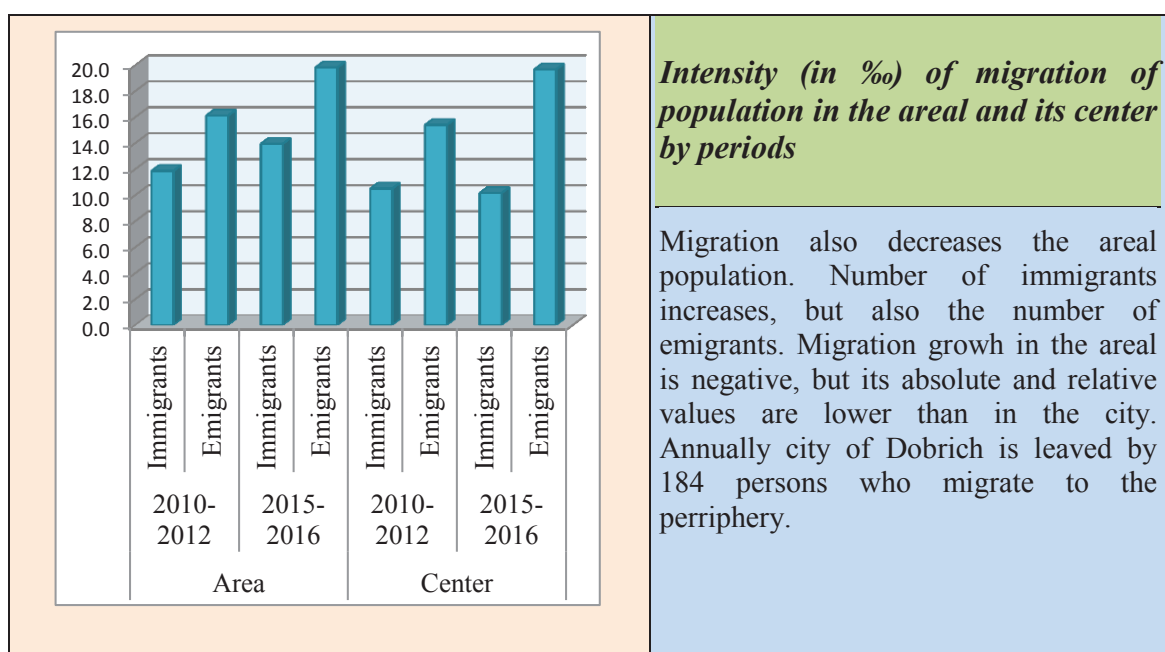
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	114053	106885
○ male	55267	51668
○ female	58787	55217
Average number of live births	1054	864
Average number of deaths	1603	1574
Absolute natural growth - number	-550	-710
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.24	8.08
Crude death rate - ‰	14.06	14.72
Natural growth rate - ‰	-4.82	-6.64
Average annual population of the areal center	91185	85847
○ male	43825	41139
○ female	47360	44708
Average annual number of births in the areal center	834	691
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	1074	1083
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-240	-392
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	9.15	8.05
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	11.78	12.61
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-2.63	-4.56

The areal population decreases by 7 000 people, or by 6.3%. Nearly 75% of the decrease is due to the decrease of the population in the areal center - city of Dobrich. The mortality rate is increasing slightly, but the birth rate decreases and is lower than the country average. Thus, the negative value of absolute and relative population growth increases.

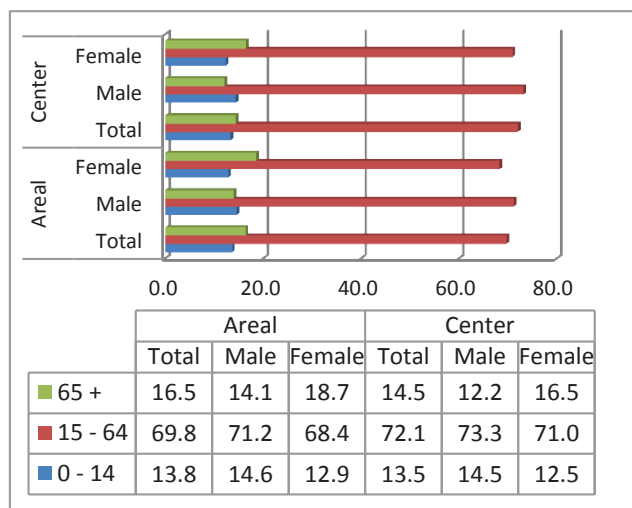
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	1353	1492
Average annual number of emigrants	1838	2119
Absolute migration growth	-485	-628
Migration growth rate - ‰	-4.26	-5.87
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	958	873
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1404	1689
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-446	-816
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-4.89	-9.51

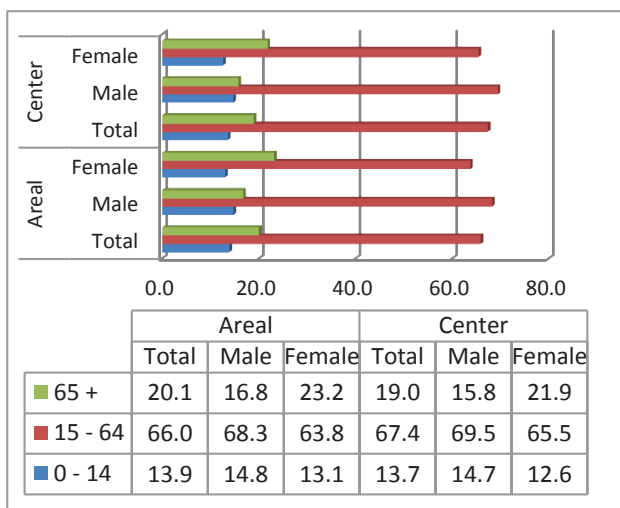


### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	15687	14875
Population aged 15 - 64 years	79585	70527
Population aged 65 and over	18782	21484
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	12271	11720
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	65735	57857
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	13180	16271
Mean age of areal population - years	42.0	43.7
Mean age of areal center population - years	41.4	43.6

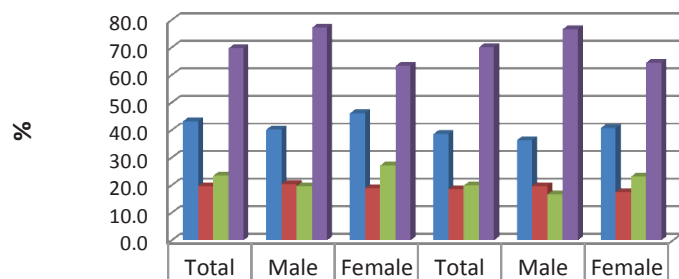
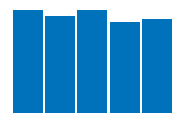


2010 - 2012



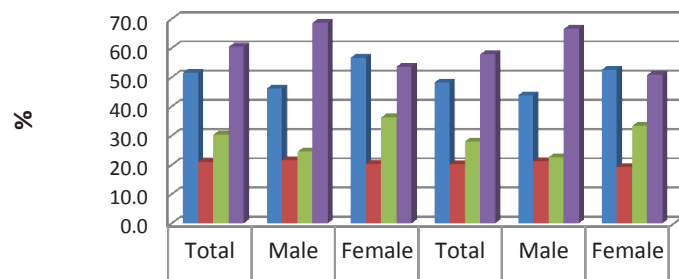
2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	43.3	40.4	46.2	38.7	36.5	40.8
Up to 14 years	19.7	20.5	18.9	18.7	19.8	17.6
64 years and over	23.6	19.8	27.3	20.0	16.7	23.3
Demographic replacement	69.8	77.3	63.4	70.2	76.7	64.6

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	51.6	46.3	56.8	48.4	44.0	52.7
Up to 14 years	21.1	21.7	20.5	20.3	21.2	19.3
64 years and over	30.5	24.6	36.3	28.1	22.7	33.4
Demographic replacement	60.5	68.8	53.7	57.9	66.7	50.9

2015 - 2016

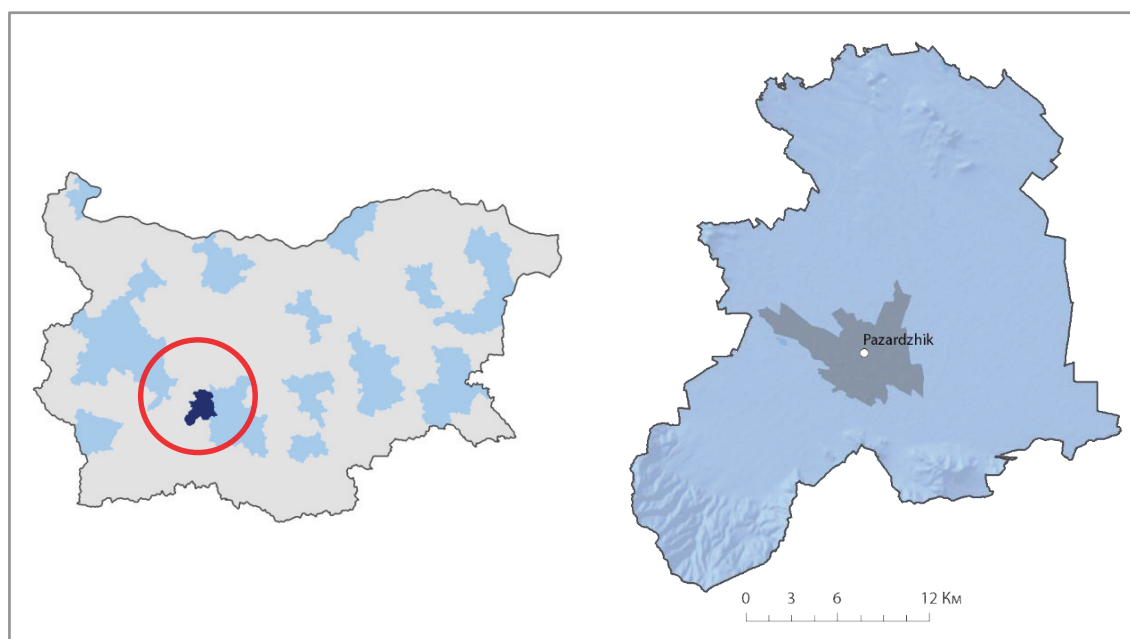
### *Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex*

Population aged 15 - 64 decreases by 9 thousand or by 11.3%. Its relative share decreases respectively from 70 to 66%. These changes are due changes of population living in the areal center. Youngest population decreases, while population aged 64 aged and more increases. Share of population aged 64 and over in the areal increases from 16.5 to 20.1%, while in the areal center - from 14.5 to 19%.

Population age structure leads to worsening of the age dependency indicators. Number of persons in dependent ages per 100 persons in independent ones increases by 8 in the areal and by 10 in its center. Demographic replacement rate decreases in the areal and in its center i.e. 100 persons exiting working age are replaces by 10 persons less in the areal and 12 in its center entering it.



## Areal with center city of Pazardzhik

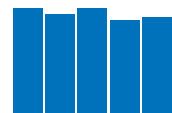


*Figure II.8.1. Area of Pazardzhik - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods*

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
PAZ19	Pazardzhik Areal	636.7	117293	184	109858	173

## Population natural growth

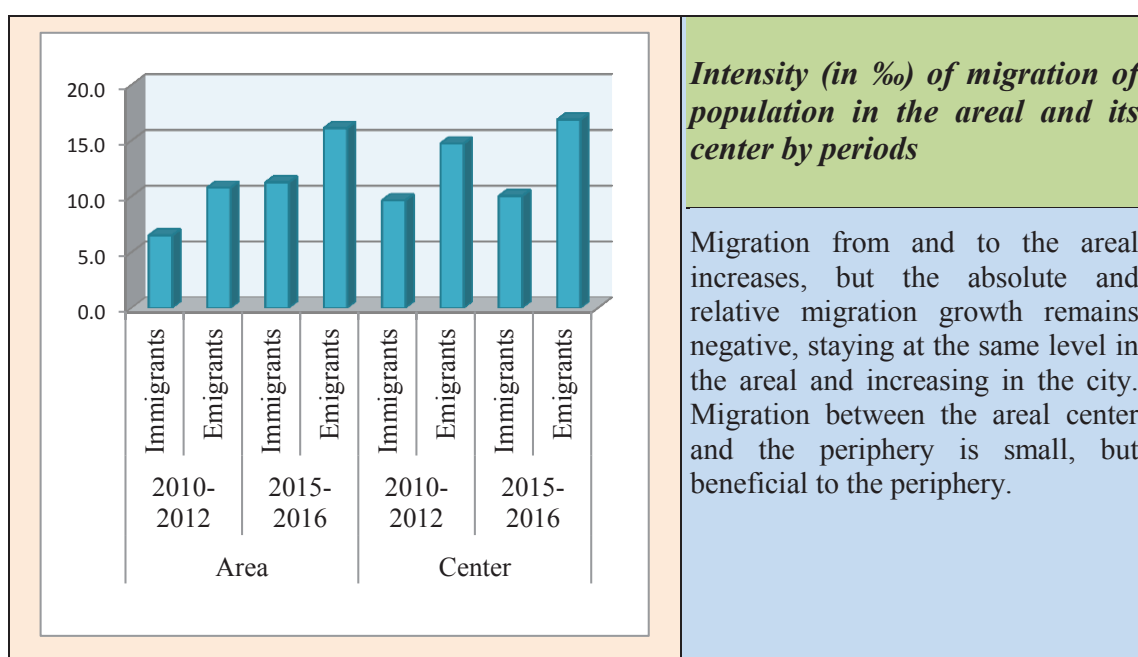
Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	117293	109858
○ male	57494	53783
○ female	59799	56075
Average number of live births	1150	1031
Average number of deaths	1489	1567
Absolute natural growth - number	-339	-536
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.80	9.38
Crude death rate - ‰	12.69	14.26
Natural growth rate - ‰	-2.89	-4.88
Average annual population of the areal center	73186	69174
○ male	35404	33414
○ female	37782	35760
Average annual number of births in the areal center	737	638
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	809	843
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-72	-206
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	10.07	9.22
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	11.05	12.19
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-0.98	-2.97



Areal population decreases by nearly 7.5 thousand, 54% of the last due to decrease of areal center population, city of Pazardzhik. Number of births decreases, while the number of deaths increases. Natural growth rate increases from minus 2.9 to minus 4.9‰. The same negative tendency is observed in the city of Pazardzhik.

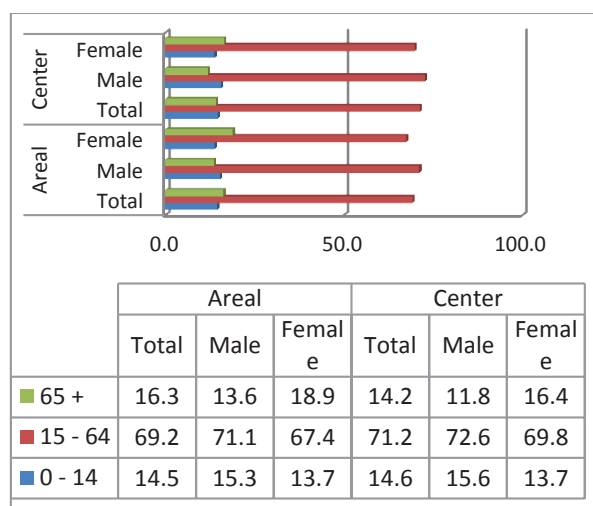
### *Migration*

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	764	1238
Average annual number of emigrants	1264	1771
Absolute migration growth	-500	-533
Migration growth rate - ‰	-4.27	-4.85
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	706	694
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1079	1168
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-372	-474
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-5.09	-6.85

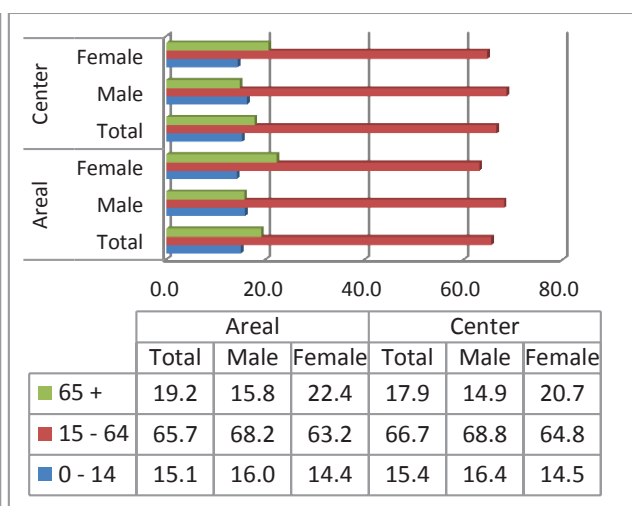


### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010-2012	2015-2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	17041	16643
Population aged 15 - 64 years	81169	72151
Population aged 65 and over	19084	21064
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	10704	10650
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	52093	46154
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	10389	12370
Mean age of areal population - years	41.4	42.9
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.7	42.5

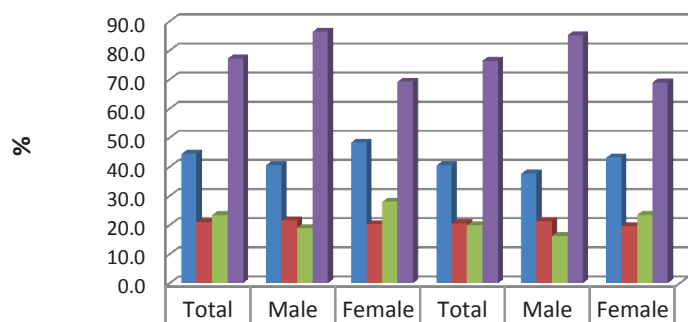
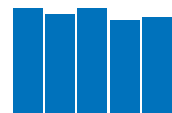


2010 - 2012



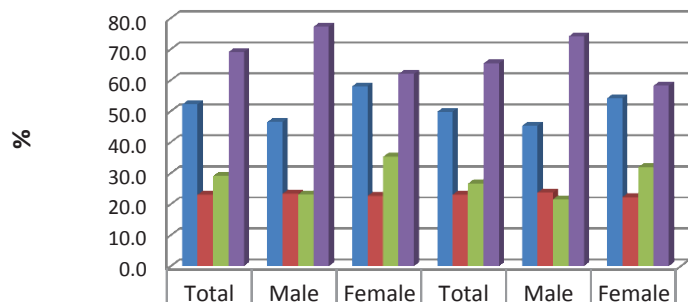
2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	44.5	40.7	48.4	40.5	37.7	43.2
Up to 14 years	21.0	21.6	20.4	20.5	21.5	19.7
64 years and over	23.5	19.1	28.0	19.9	16.3	23.5
Demographic replacement	77.2	86.5	69.3	76.5	85.3	69.1

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	52.3	46.6	58.1	49.9	45.4	54.3
Up to 14 years	23.1	23.4	22.7	23.1	23.8	22.4
64 years and over	29.2	23.2	35.4	26.8	21.6	31.9
Demographic replacement	69.2	77.4	62.1	65.5	74.2	58.3

2015 - 2016

### *Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex*

Working age population in the areal has decreased by 9 thousand, while in the center - by nearly 6 thousand. Number of youngest population decreases and of population aged 64 and over - increases. Share of youngest population remains the same, but of population aged 15 - 64 years decreases. The last is by 3.5% less in the areal and by 4.5% - in the city. Share of oldest population in the areal increases from 16 to 19% and in the city - from 14 to 18%. Mean age increases more in the city.

Persons in dependent ages per 100 persons in independent ages in the areal are by 8 more and in the city - by 9. The ratio is equal the the country average. Demographic replacement rate also became worse, but higher than the country average.

## Areal with center city of Pleven

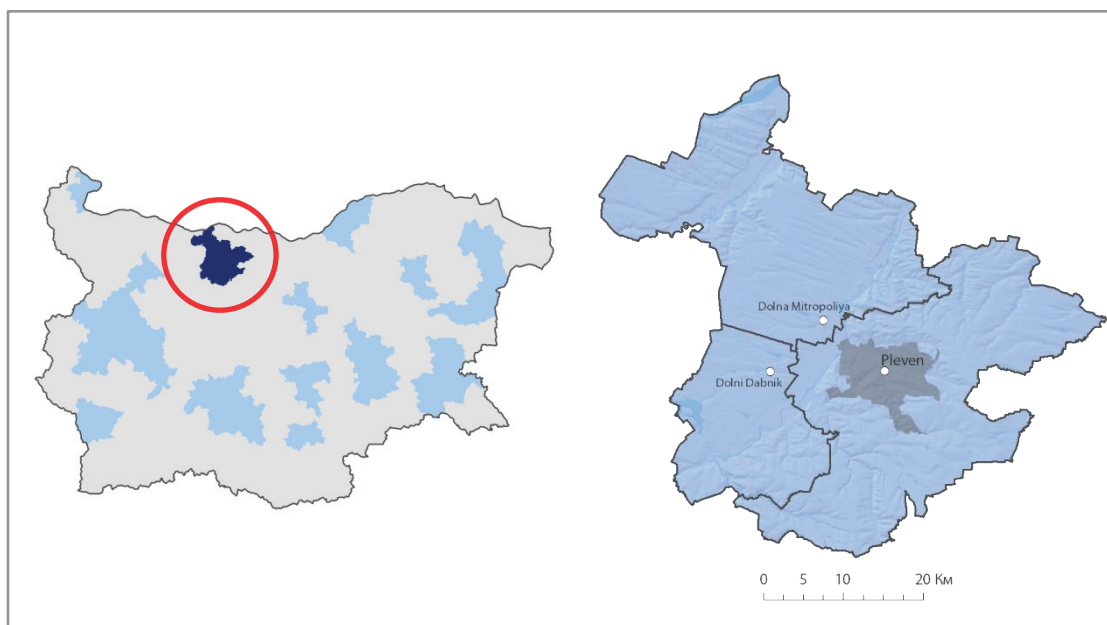


Figure II.9.1. Area of Plevan - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
		Population	Density	Population	Density
PVN10 Dolna Mitropoliya	674.9	20440	30	18633	28
PVN11 Dolni Dabnik	307.6	12933	42	11082	36
PVN24 Plevan	809.7	133310	165	122927	152
<b>Areal</b>	<b>1792.2</b>	<b>166683</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>152642</b>	<b>85</b>

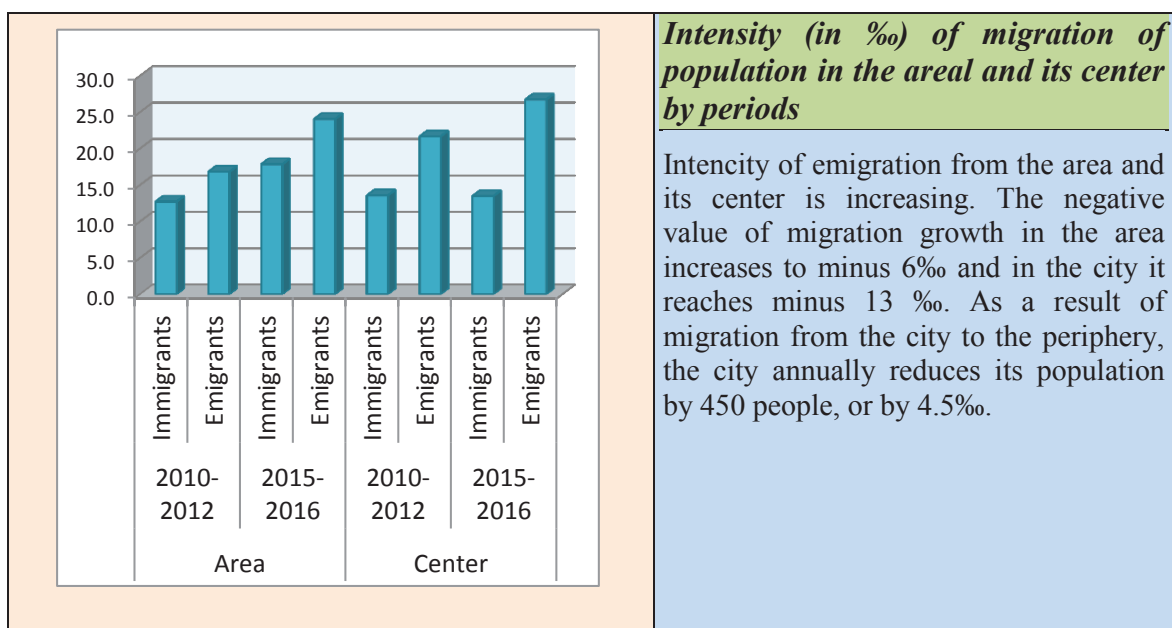
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	166682	152642
o male	80749	73732
o female	85933	78911
Average number of live births	1501	1389
Average number of deaths	2649	2471
Absolute natural growth - number	-1148	-1082
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.01	9.10
Crude death rate - ‰	15.89	16.18
Natural growth rate - ‰	-6.89	-7.09
Average annual population of the areal center	108038	99048
o male	52027	47400
o female	56011	51648
Average annual number of births in the areal center	929	799
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	1251	1243
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-322	-444
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	8.60	8.07
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	11.58	12.54
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-2.98	-4.48

Most drastic decrease of the population in the country is observed in the area with center city of Pleven. For the monitored period, the area population has decreased by over 14 thousand and in the city - by 9 thousand. The birth rate in the area is below the country average, and the mortality rate is higher. Natural growth also has a high negative value. Compared to other area centers, the city of Pleven has a very low birth rate and a high negative natural increase. A major problem here is the acceleration of the negative demographic development trends of the area and, above all, of its center.

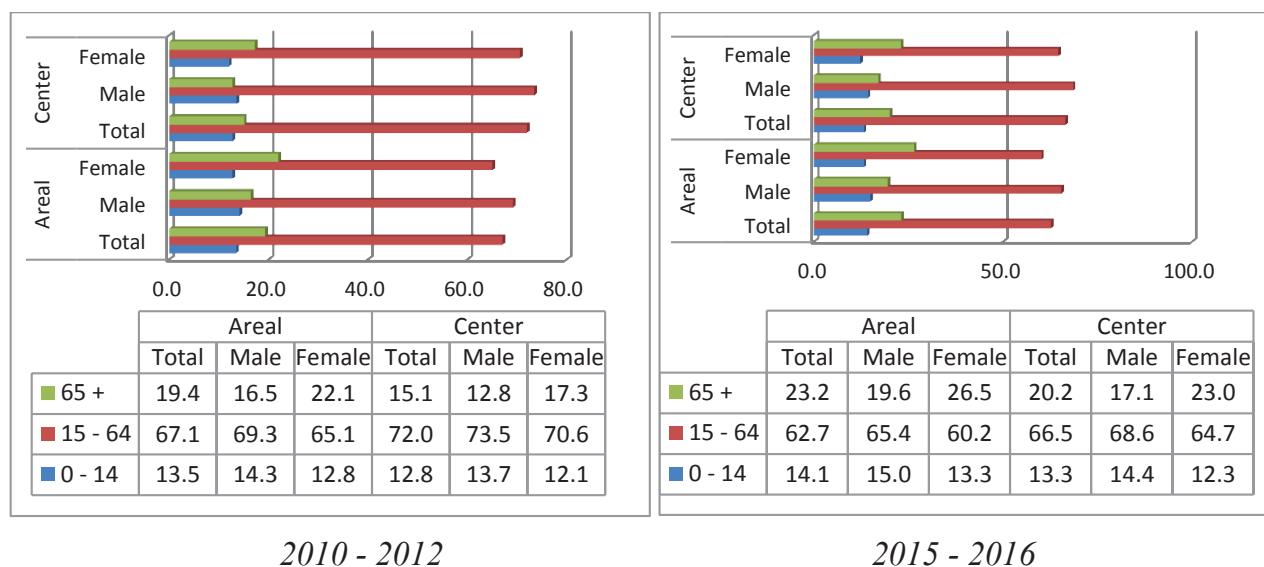
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	2125	2728
Average annual number of emigrants	2806	3674
Absolute migration growth	-681	-946
Migration growth rate - ‰	-4.09	-6.20
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	1468	1338
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	2343	2650
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-876	-1312
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-8.11	-13.25

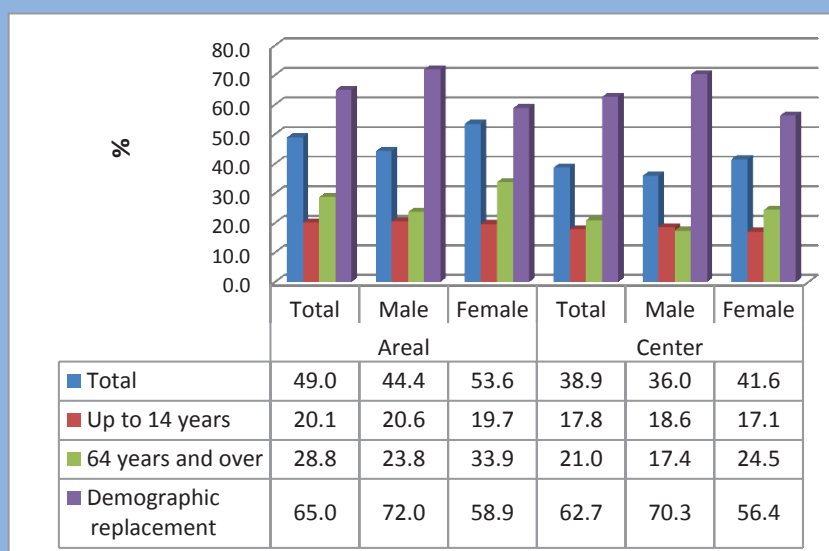
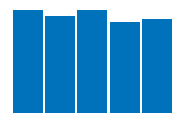


### Age structure

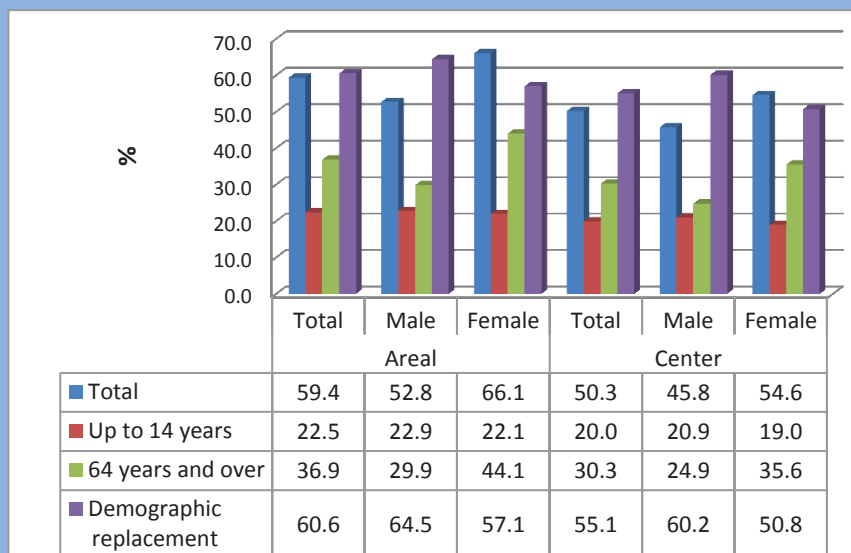
Average annual population by age	2010 -2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	22541	21521
Population aged 15 - 64 years	111881	95750
Population aged 65 and over	32260	35371
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	13878	13155
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	77804	65911
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	16356	19983
Mean age of areal population - years	43.4	44.8
Mean age of areal center population - years	42.2	44.3



*Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center*



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

### *Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex*

The area population is aging. The mean age (44.3 years) is one of the highest. With more than 16 000 people decreases the working-age population. Its share now is 63%, which is one of the lowest in the country. The share of the young population remains and the population over 64 is increasing. The population structure of area center is also deteriorating. Working age population is about 5% or 12 000 less, while the population over 64 increased and is over 20%.

The number of people in dependant ages per 100 persons aged 15 - 64 in the area and its center increased by 10. The ratio between persons entering working age and those who exit it declined (61%), which is among the lowest levels in the country.



## Areal with center city of Plovdiv

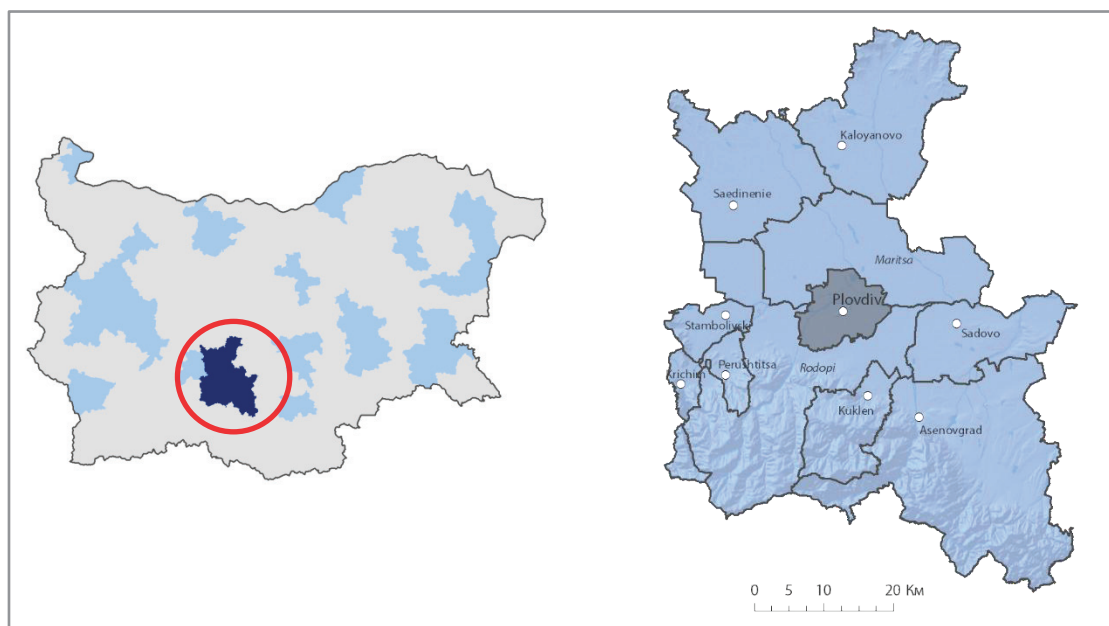
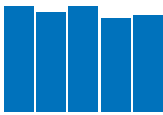


Figure II.10.1. Area of Plovdiv - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
PDV01	Asenovgrad	665.4	64197	97	61993	93
PDV12	Kaloyanovo	347.5	12022	35	11114	32
PDV17	Maritsa	342.7	31938	93	31608	92
PDV22	Plovdiv	102.0	343197	3365	342525	3358
PDV26	Rodopi	523.7	32091	61	31018	59
PDV28	Sadovo	192.9	15543	81	14857	77
PDV33	Saedinenie	298.0	10699	36	9981	33
PDV39	Krichim	54.9	8429	154	8106	148
PDV40	Perushtitsa	48.7	5089	105	4884	100
PDV41	Stamboliyski	61.3	20631	337	20027	327
PDV42	Kuklen	148.4	6453	44	6354	43
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>2785.3</b>	<b>550289</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>542465</b>	<b>195</b>



### Population natural growth

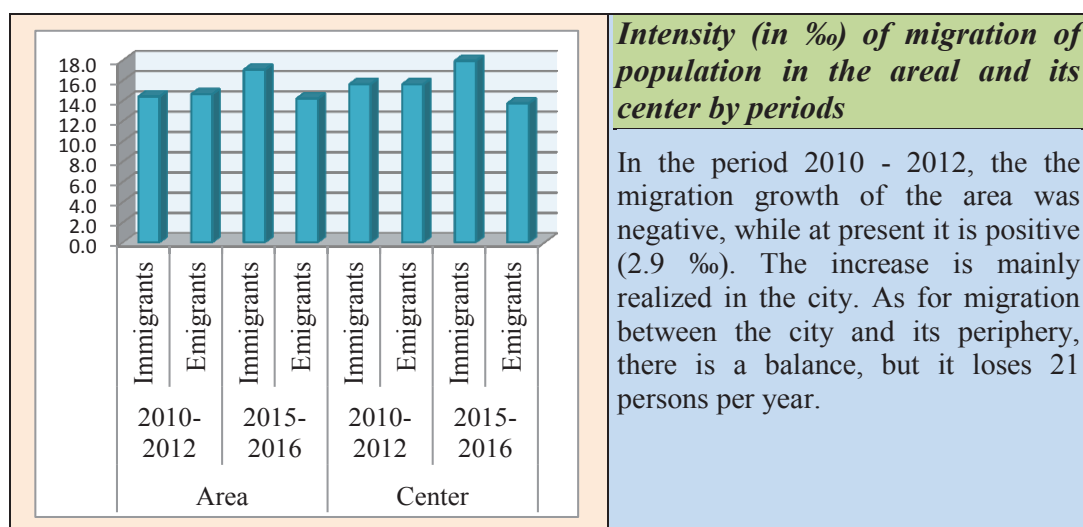
Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	550288	542465
o male	264809	260728
o female	285480	281737
Average number of live births	5626	5330
Average number of deaths	7114	7415
Absolute natural growth - number	-1488	-2085
Crude birth rate - ‰	10.22	9.82
Crude death rate - ‰	12.93	13.67
Natural growth rate - ‰	-2.70	-3.84
Average annual population of the areal center	343197	342525
o male	163544	162884
o female	179653	179641
Average annual number of births in the areal center	3804	3529
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	3738	4036
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	66	-508
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	11.08	10.30
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	10.89	11.78
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	0.19	-1.48

The area with center city of Plovdiv is well developed in economic terms. The population decrease is mainly due to its natural growth - almost 8 000, or 1.4%. The birth rate in the area decreases and the mortality rate is slightly increasing. During the observed period, the negative natural population growth increased and reached 3.8 ‰. In the previous period the population growth in city of Plovdiv positive, but now the decrease of birth rate and the increase of mortality rate generated a negative annual growth of 508 persons or minus 1.5 ‰.

### Migration

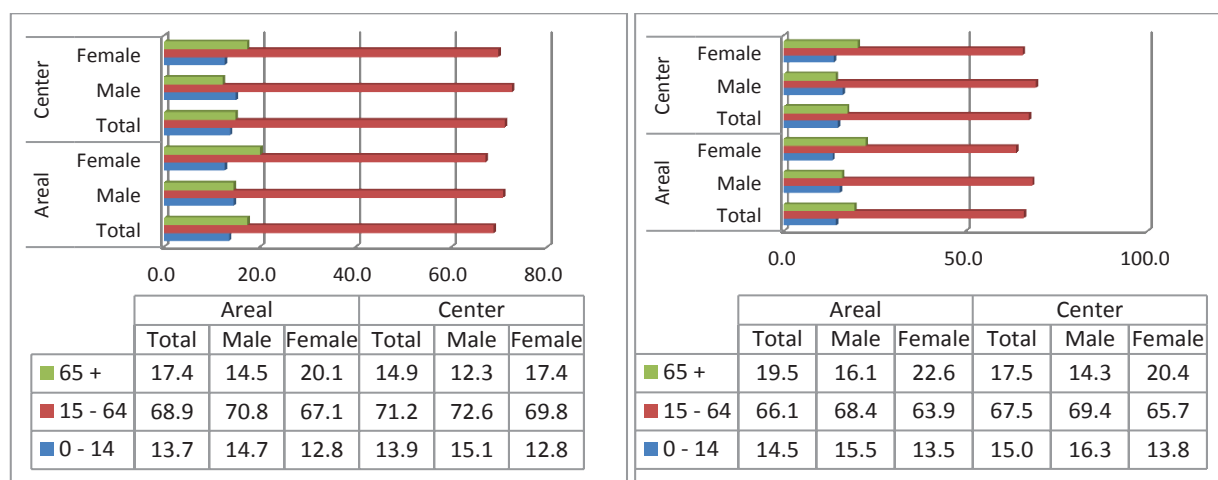
Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	7936	9264
Average annual number of emigrants	8059	7716
Absolute migration growth	-124	1549
Migration growth rate - ‰	-0.22	2.85
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	5367	6147
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	5362	4711
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	5	1436
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	0.01	4.19

## II. DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AREAS



### Age structure

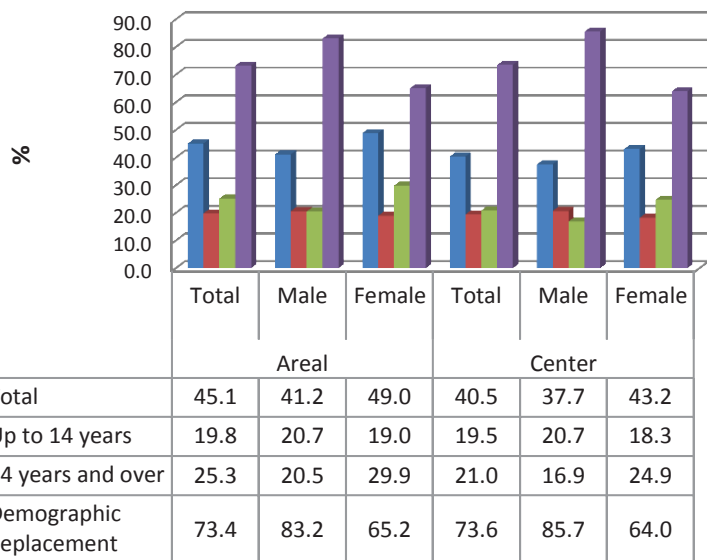
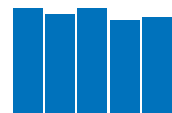
Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	75239	78483
Population aged 15 - 64 years	379140	358334
Population aged 65 and over	95909	105648
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	47611	51325
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	244285	231124
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	51302	60077
Mean age of areal population - years	41.8	42.7
Mean age of areal center population - years	41.9	41.7



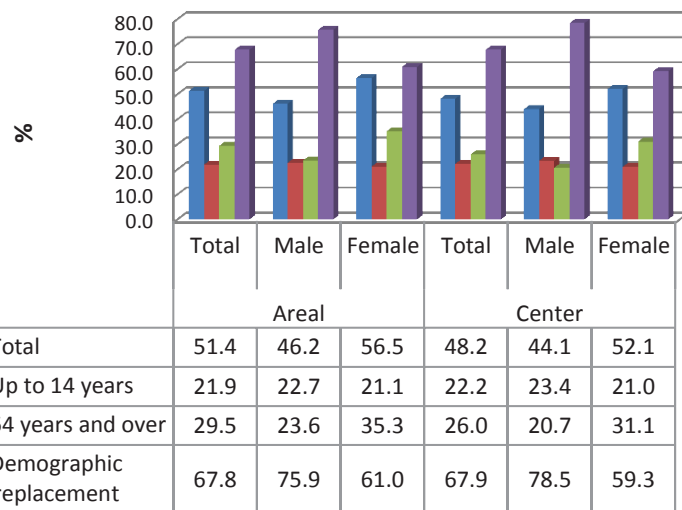
2010 - 2012

2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

***Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex***

The number of working age population in the area decreases by 21 000, but the number of population up to 14 years increases by 3 200. The population age structure in the area and its center do not differ considerably, but the share of city population aged 15 - 64 is higher. Compared to the rest areas, the age structure of both area and city populations are favourable. Demographic dependency ratio (51%) is lower than the country average. Despite the decrease of population aged 15 - 19 or persons who replace those exiting working age, the ratio is higher than the country average and the average for the rest areas.

## Areal with center city of Ruse

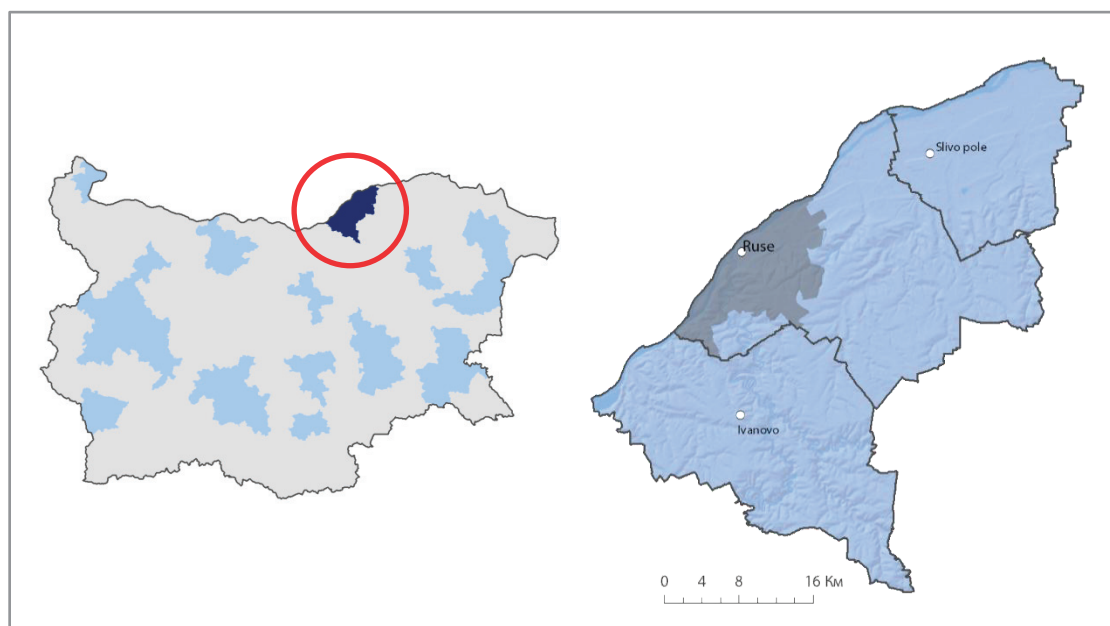


Figure II.11.1. Area of Ruse - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
RSE13	Ivanovo	490.7	9731	20	8638	18
RSE27	Ruse	570.6	170602	299	162354	285
RSE33	Slivo pole	276.8	11106	40	10163	37
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>1338.2</b>	<b>191439</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>181154</b>	<b>135</b>

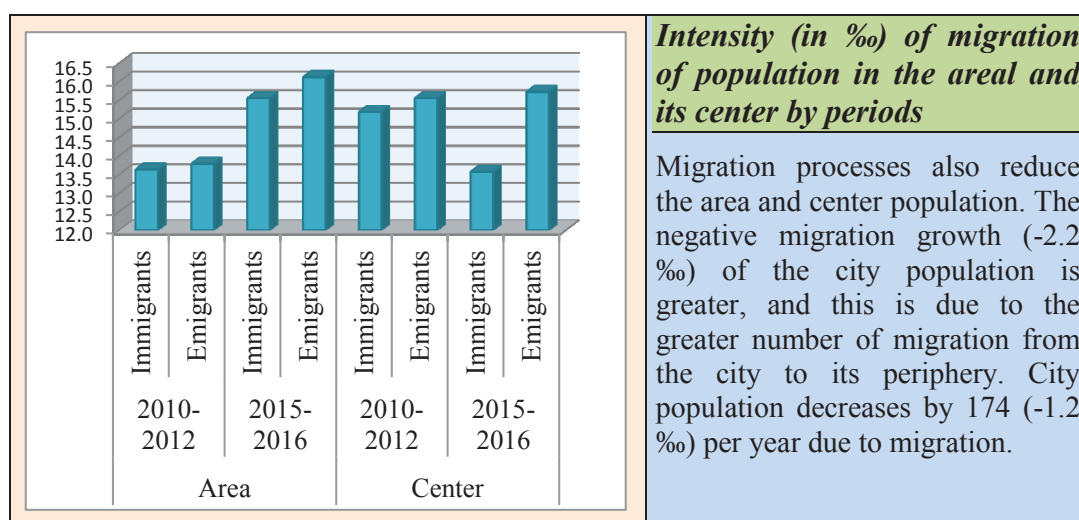
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010-2012	2015-2016
Average annual population	191439	181154
○ male	92725	88240
○ female	98714	92915
Average number of live births	1581	1450
Average number of deaths	2781	2788
Absolute natural growth - number	-1200	-1339
Crude birth rate - ‰	8.26	8.00
Crude death rate - ‰	14.53	15.39
Natural growth rate - ‰	-6.27	-7.39
Average annual population of the areal center	152461	145351
○ male	73587	70563
○ female	78873	74788
Average annual number of births in the areal center	1309	1204
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	1950	1951
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-641	-747
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	8.59	8.28
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	12.79	13.42
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-4.20	-5.14

Negative are the tendencies in the demographic development of area with center city of Ruse. The birth rate is lower than the country average and continues to decrease. Mortality is increasing. Negative natural growth increases to minus 7.4 ‰, level above the national average. The total population decrease in the area is 13 000 persons, with nearly half of the last due to decrease of the city population. City population is characterized by low birth rate and negative natural population growth.

### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	2611	2818
Average annual number of emigrants	2641	2922
Absolute migration growth	-30	-104
Migration growth rate - ‰	-0.15	-0.57
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	2316	1974
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	2372	2286
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-56	-313
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-0.37	-2.15

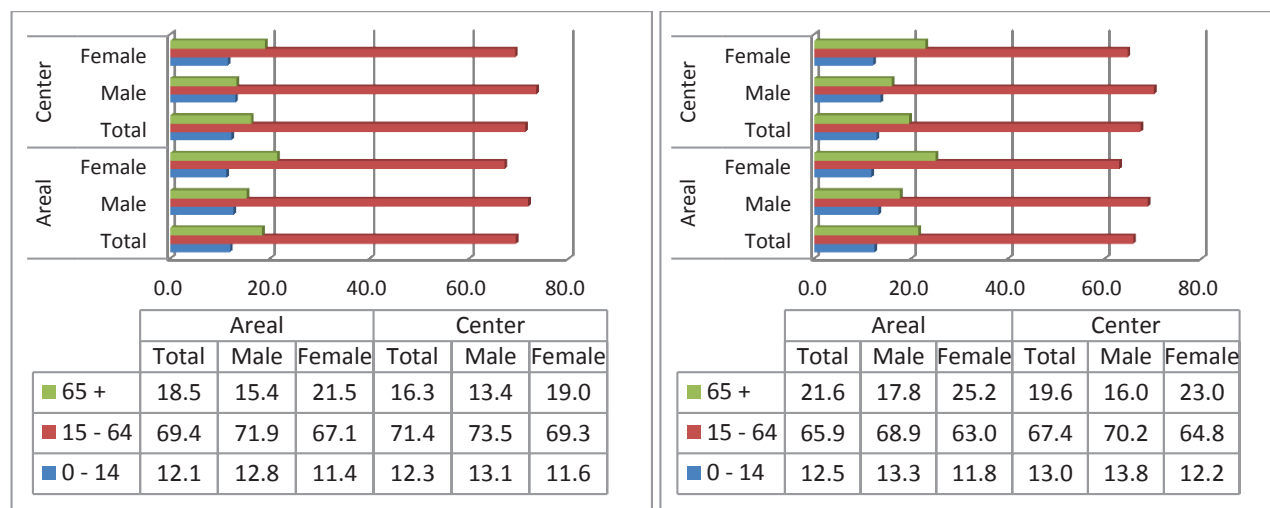


#### Intensity (in ‰) of migration of population in the areal and its center by periods

Migration processes also reduce the area and center population. The negative migration growth (-2.2 ‰) of the city population is greater, and this is due to the greater number of migration from the city to its periphery. City population decreases by 174 (-1.2 ‰) per year due to migration.

## Age structure

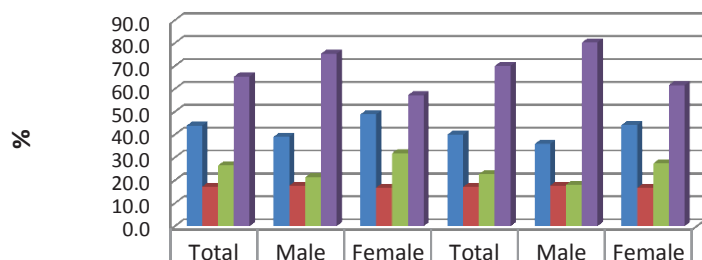
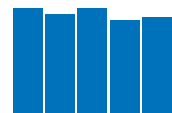
Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	23076	22733
Population aged 15 - 64 years	132894	119378
Population aged 65 and over	35469	39044
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	18803	18865
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	108782	97985
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	24876	28501
Mean age of areal population - years	43.0	44.3
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.1	44.3



2010 - 2012

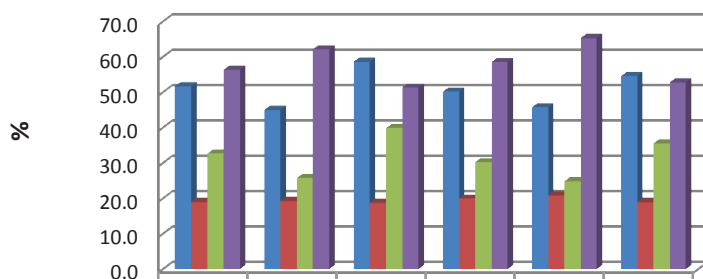
2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	44.1	39.2	49.0	40.2	36.0	44.3
Up to 14 years	17.4	17.8	16.9	17.3	17.8	16.8
64 years and over	26.7	21.4	32.0	22.9	18.2	27.5
Demographic replacement	65.5	75.5	57.4	70.2	80.4	61.7

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	51.7	45.1	58.7	50.3	45.8	54.6
Up to 14 years	19.0	19.3	18.8	20.0	20.9	19.0
64 years and over	32.7	25.8	39.9	30.3	24.9	35.6
Demographic replacement	56.4	62.2	51.4	58.6	65.4	52.8

2015 - 2016

**Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex**

Area population aged 15 - 64 decreases with more than 13 000, as 80% of which due to the decrease of city population. The relative share of youngest population remains low - about 13%. As a result of population aging, the share of oldest population is increasing by almost 22% in the area and nearly 20% in the area center. Mean age of population in Ruse is 44.3 years - one of the highest in the country.

The demographic burden of population is increasing. Now, 100 persons aged 15 - 64 account for nearly 52 inactive, or about 8 more compared to 2010 - 2012 period. The demographic replacement rate decreased by 9 per cent, and its value is significantly below the country average.



## Areal with center city of Sliven

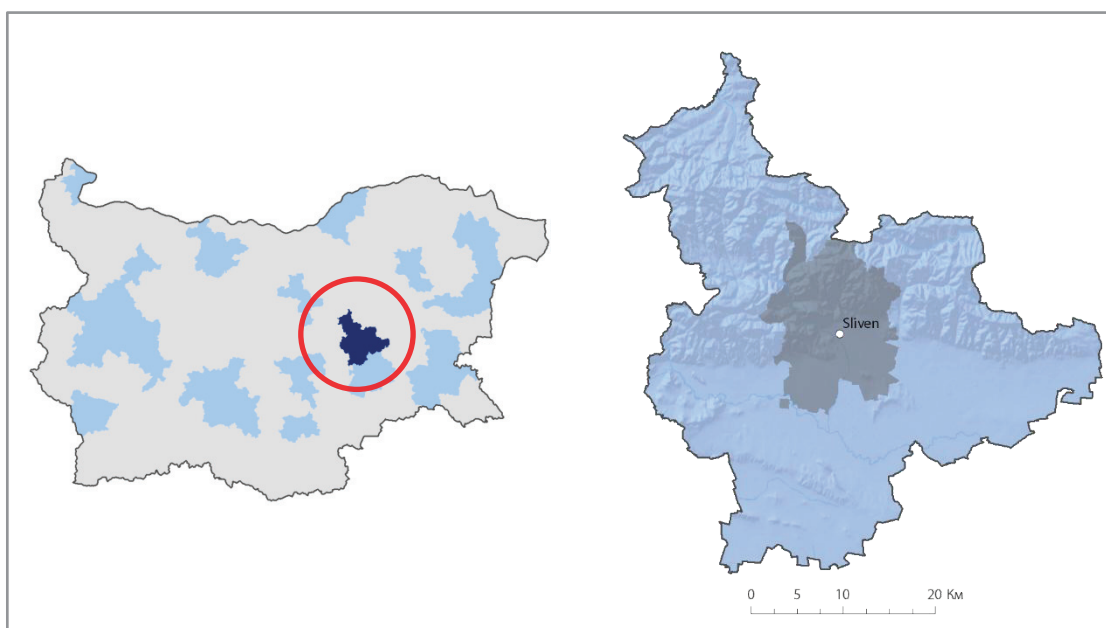


Figure II.12.1. Area of Sliven - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016		
		Population	Density	Population	Density	
SLV20	Sliven Areal	1366.6	125827	92	121020	89

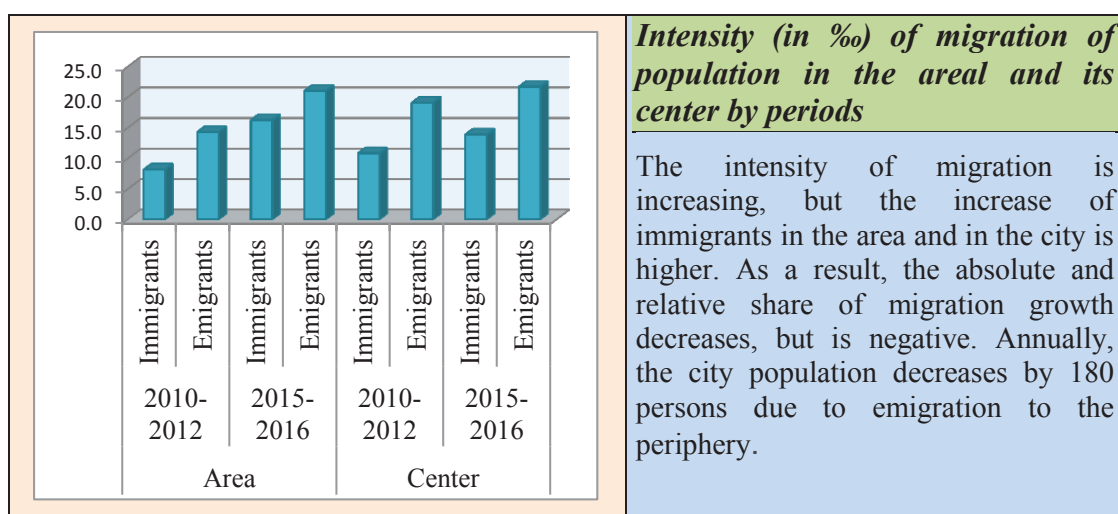
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	125827	121020
○ male	60998	58603
○ female	64830	62418
Average number of live births	1501	1460
Average number of deaths	1716	1732
Absolute natural growth - number	-216	-272
Crude birth rate - ‰	11.93	12.06
Crude death rate - ‰	13.64	14.31
Natural growth rate - ‰	-1.71	-2.24
Average annual population of the areal center	91871	87609
○ male	44213	41941
○ female	47658	45668
Average annual number of births in the areal center	1009	962
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	1109	1150
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-99	-188
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	10.99	10.98
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	12.07	13.13
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-1.08	-2.15

Area population is decreasing by 4 800 people mainly due to the decrease of its center, city of Sliven, population. In area center lives 74% of the area population. The birth rate is significantly higher than the country average, and the mortality rate is lower. However, the area has a negative natural population growth rate (-2.2 ‰). Birth and mortality rates in the city are lower than those in the area, but the relative growth is the same.

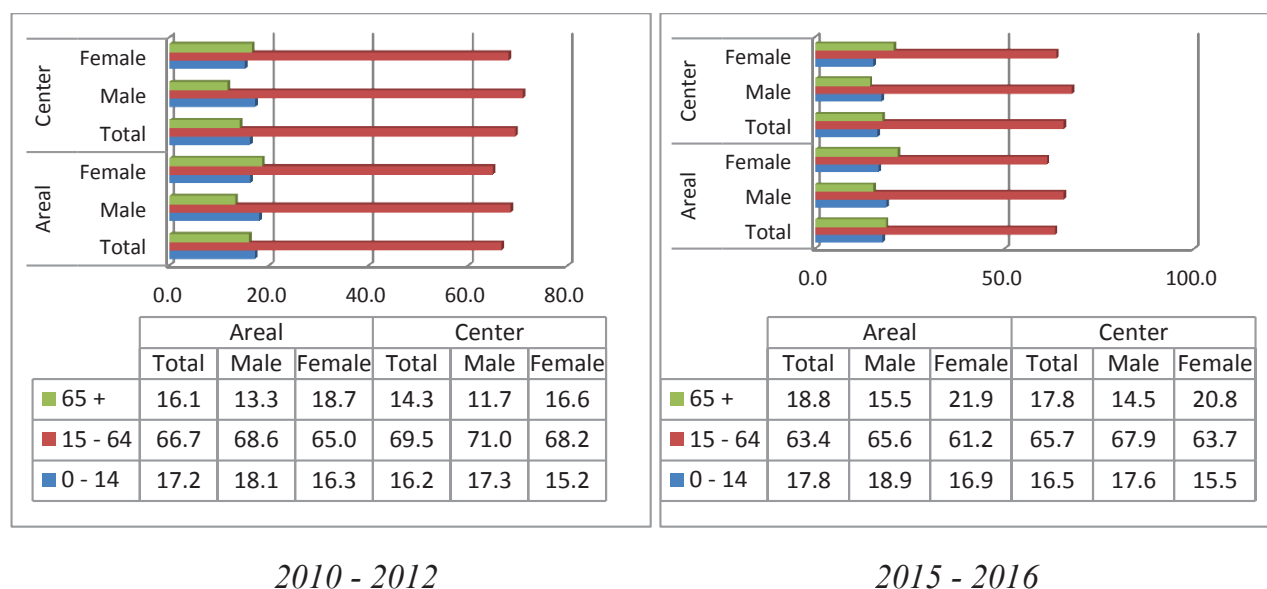
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	1029	1968
Average annual number of emigrants	1801	2545
Absolute migration growth	-773	-577
Migration growth rate - ‰	-6.14	-4.76
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	997	1218
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1754	1902
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-757	-684
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-8.24	-7.80

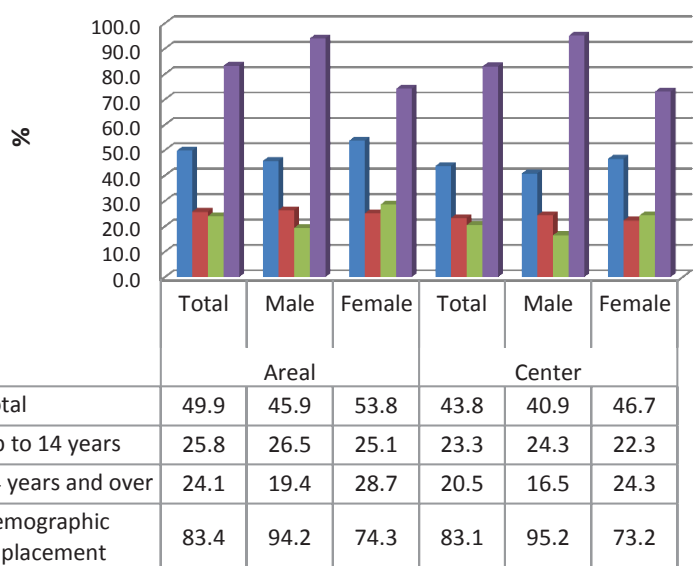
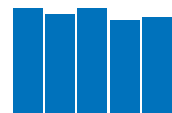


### Age structure

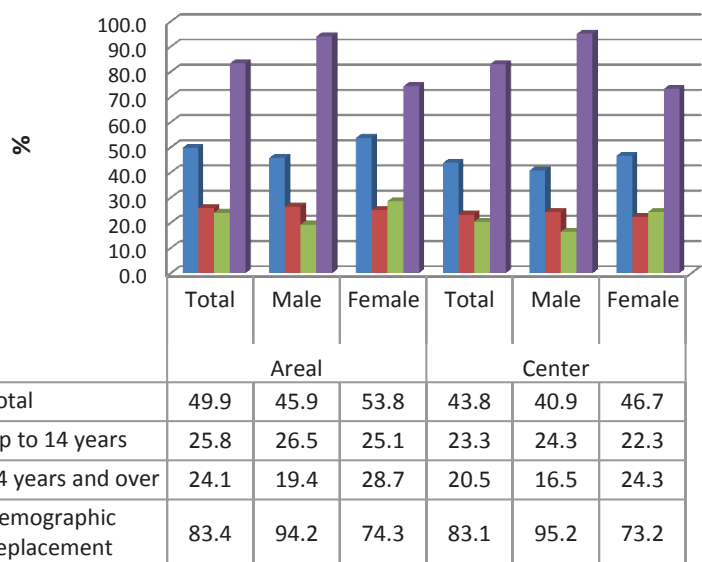
Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	21661	21598
Population aged 15 - 64 years	83962	76682
Population aged 65 and over	20204	22741
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	14895	14467
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	63878	57544
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	13099	15599
Mean age of areal population - years	40.3	41.5
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.6	41.8



Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

***Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex***

Area population aged 15 - 64 decreases by more than 7 000 mainly due to the decrease of city population. As a result, its relative share falls by more than 3% both and area and city. The number and share of young people remain at roughly the same levels. Share of oldest population is increasing. In the area, the mean age of population is 41.5, and in the center - 41.8 years.

Demographic dependency ratio is higher than the country average, but nearly half of it is due to the young population.

The demographic replacement rate is significantly higher than the country average and compared to the rest areas.

## Areal with center city of Sofia

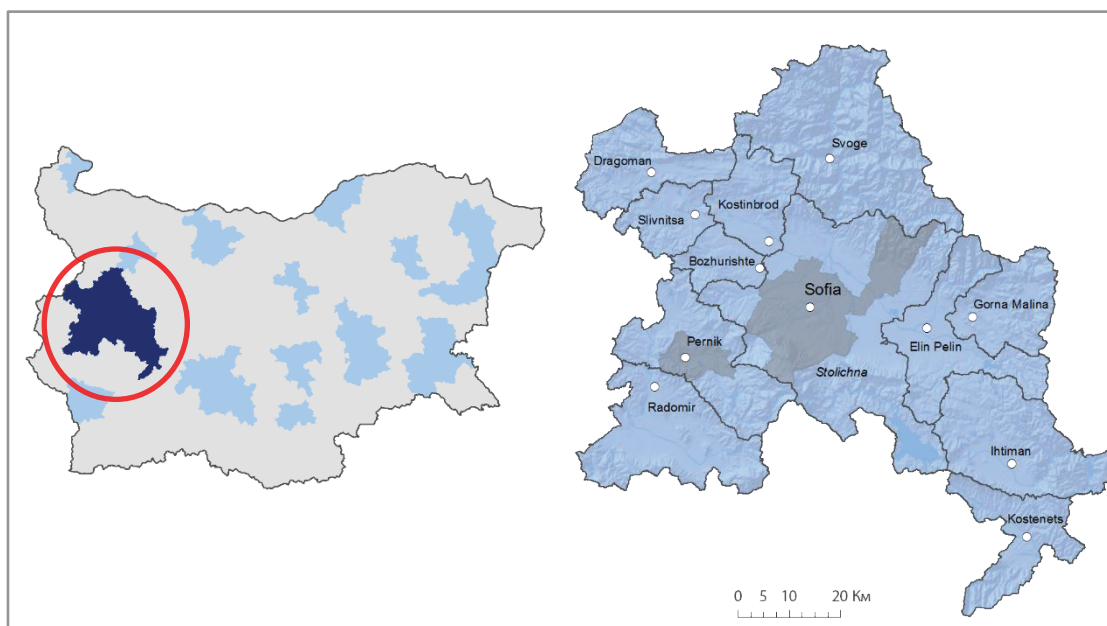
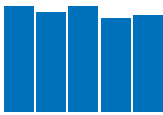


Figure II.13.1. Area of Sofia - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
PER32	Pernik	484.2	95523	197	90718	187
PER36	Radomir	540.5	20878	39	19131	35
SFO06	Bozhurishte	142.9	8288	58	8413	59
SFO10	Gorna Malina	277.2	6394	23	6759	24
SFO16	Dragoman	323.9	5458	17	4993	15
SFO17	Elin Pelin	451.3	22966	51	22180	49
SFO20	Ihtiman	541.8	18095	33	17244	32
SFO25	Kostenets	302.1	12802	42	11736	39
SFO26	Kostinbrod	254.4	17528	69	17073	67
SFO43	Svoge	868.6	22115	26	20195	23
SFO45	Slivnitsa	187.4	9469	51	9067	48
SOF46	Stolichna	1348.9	1277373	947	1321721	980
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>5723.2</b>	<b>1516889</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>1549227</b>	<b>271</b>



### *Population natural growth*

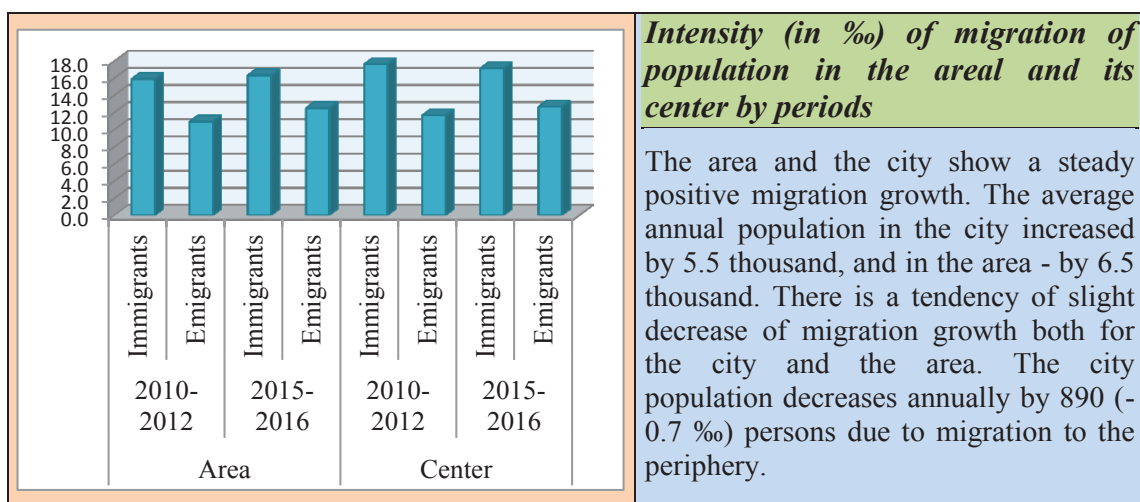
Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	1516888	1549227
○ male	725339	744011
○ female	791548	805217
Average number of live births	15925	15221
Average number of deaths	19245	19720
Absolute natural growth - number	-3320	-4499
Crude birth rate - ‰	10.50	9.82
Crude death rate - ‰	12.69	12.73
Natural growth rate - ‰	-2.19	-2.90
Average annual population of the areal center	1190712	1234014
○ male	565651	589108
○ female	625061	644907
Average annual number of births in the areal center	13390	12810
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	13933	14399
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-543	-1590
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	11.25	10.38
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	11.70	11.67
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-0.46	-1.29

The area with center city of Sofia is the largest according to number of its population. During the two compared periods, the area population increased by more than 32 thousand, and in the center - by 44 thousand people. The birth rate in the area is higher than the country average, and the mortality rate is lower. The natural growth rate is negative (-2.9 ‰), but much lower than the country average. Demographic indicators in city of Sofia are better, but the natural growth is also negative. As a result, the city population decreases by 1 590 or 1.3 ‰ yearly.

### *Migration*

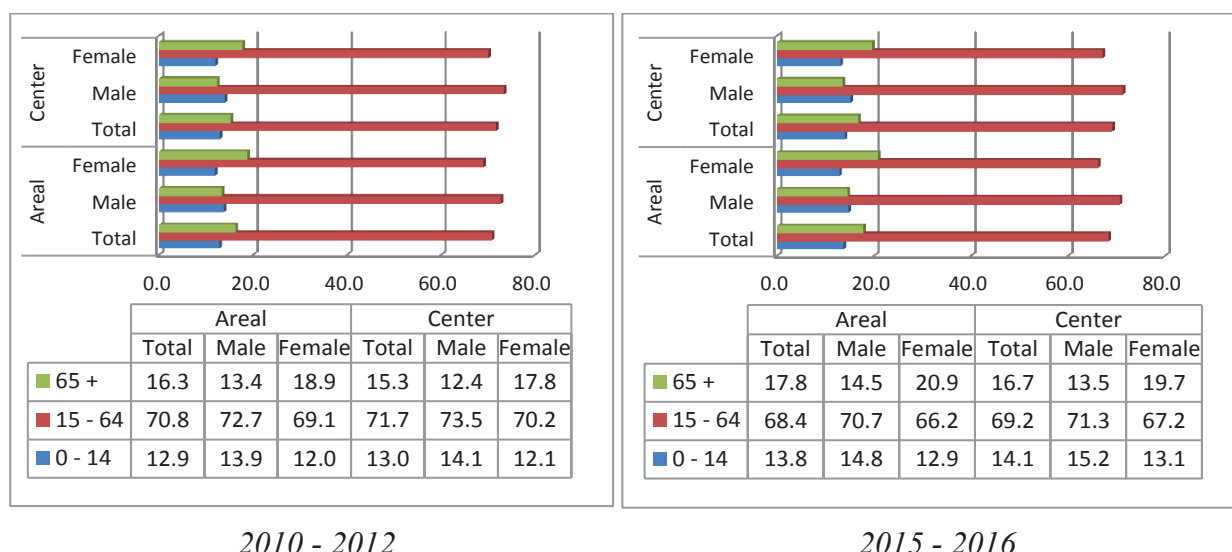
Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	24113	27738
Average annual number of emigrants	16585	21236
Absolute migration growth	7528	6503
Migration growth rate - ‰	4.96	3.83
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	20972	21161
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	13887	15635
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	7085	5526
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	5.95	4.48

## II. DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AREAS

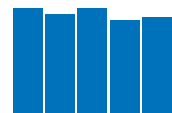


### Age structure

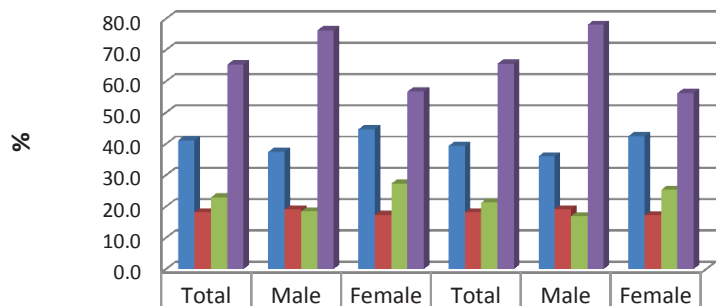
Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	195612	213528
Population aged 15 - 64 years	1074324	1059550
Population aged 65 and over	246952	276150
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	155029	173723
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	854083	853666
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	181600	206625
Mean age of areal population - years	41.3	41.8
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.6	40.9



Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center

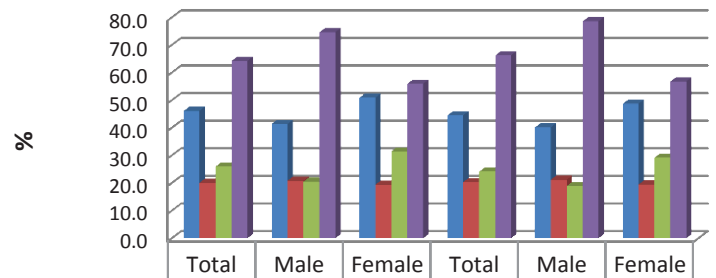


***Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex***



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
■ Total	41.2	37.5	44.7	39.4	36.1	42.5
■ Up to 14 years	18.2	19.1	17.4	18.2	19.2	17.2
■ 64 years and over	23.0	18.4	27.4	21.3	16.9	25.4
■ Demographic replacement	65.4	76.4	56.8	65.7	78.2	56.3

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
■ Total	46.2	41.4	50.9	44.6	40.2	48.8
■ Up to 14 years	20.2	20.9	19.4	20.4	21.2	19.5
■ 64 years and over	26.1	20.5	31.5	24.2	19.0	29.3
■ Demographic replacement	64.3	74.7	56.1	66.3	78.7	56.9

2015 - 2016

The number and share of population up to 14 years in Sofia increased between the two periods by more than 18 000. Number of working age population in the city remains the same, while in the area decreases by 15 000. The oldest population increased by 25 000 in the city and by 29 000 in the area, and its share increases by 1.5% both in the city and the area.

The mean age of area population is 41.8, and its center - 40.9 years, values that are comparatively lower than in the rest areas.

The demographic dependency ratio is relatively low, and the demographic replacement rate is closer to the country one.



## Areal with center city of Stara Zagora

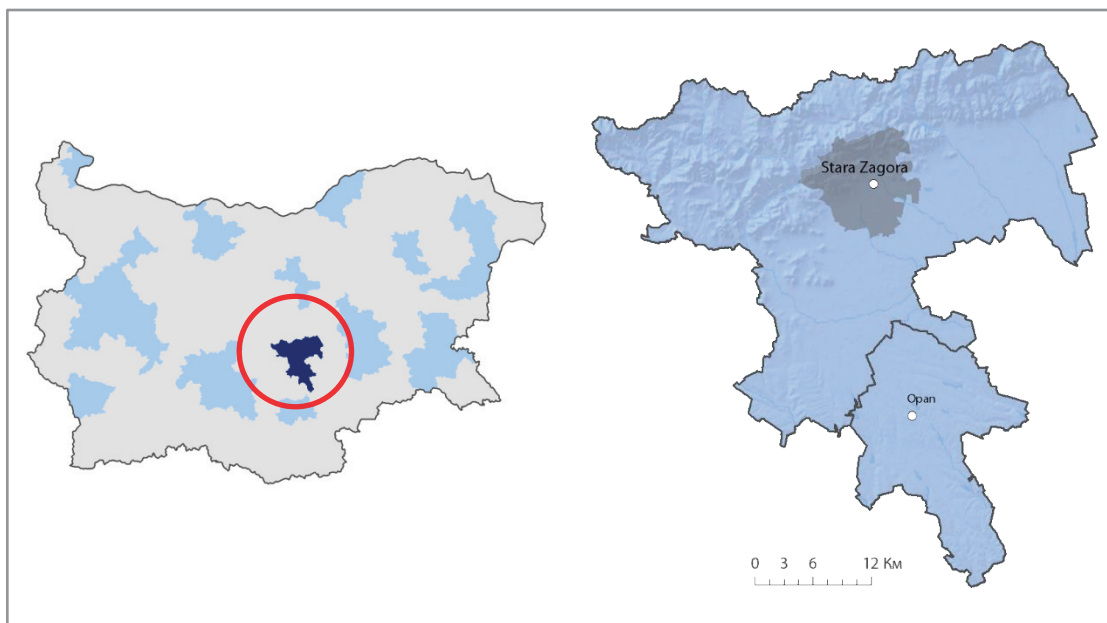


Figure II.14.1. Area of Stara Zagora - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
SZR23	Opan	257.5	3178	12	2647	10
SZR31	Stara Zagora	1063.4	161544	152	158413	149
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>1320.9</b>	<b>164722</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>161059</b>	<b>122</b>

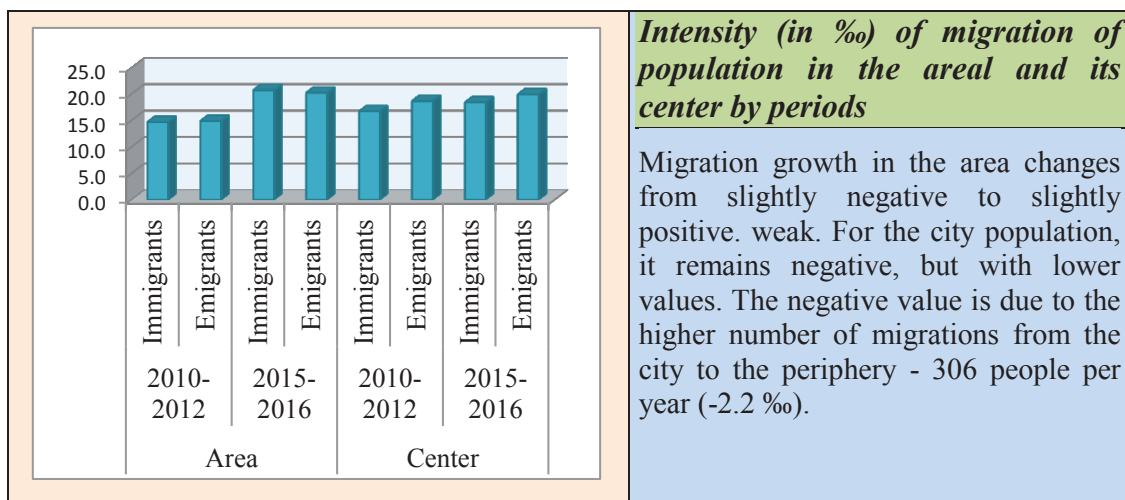
## Population natural growth

Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	164723	161059
○ male	79817	77599
○ female	84906	83460
Average number of live births	1649	1514
Average number of deaths	2244	2231
Absolute natural growth - number	-594	-717
Crude birth rate - ‰	10.01	9.40
Crude death rate - ‰	13.62	13.85
Natural growth rate - ‰	-3.61	-4.45
Average annual population of the areal center	138778	136794
○ male	67116	65713
○ female	71662	71081
Average annual number of births in the areal center	1428	1306
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	1540	1571
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-112	-265
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	10.29	9.55
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	11.10	11.48
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-0.81	-1.93

Over the period under review the decrease of the area and its center population is comparatively small compared to the rest observed areas and centers (3.6 thousand), with almost half of it in the city of Stara Zagora. Birth rate decreases and the mortality rate slightly increases. The natural growth, which is negative, is also increasing. Demographic indicators in the city follow the same trends, but at lower levels.

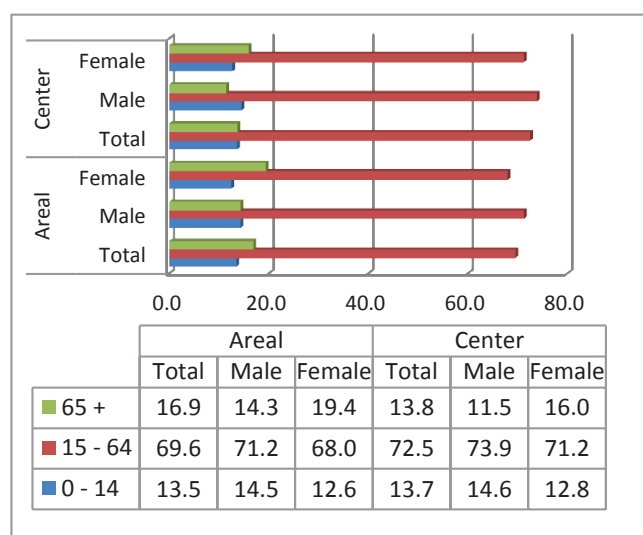
### Migration

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	2416	3334
Average annual number of emigrants	2449	3254
Absolute migration growth	-33	80
Migration growth rate - ‰	-0.20	0.50
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	2315	2514
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	2588	2723
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-273	-210
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-1.97	-1.53

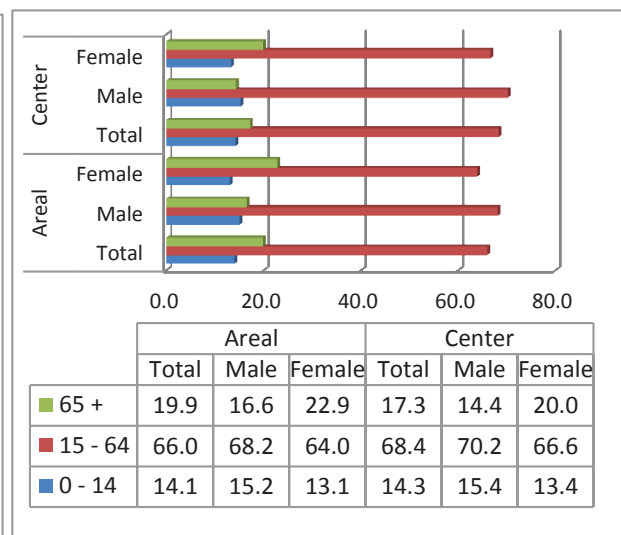


### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	22206	22708
Population aged 15 - 64 years	114624	106353
Population aged 65 and over	27893	31999
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	18958	19595
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	100638	93523
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	19181	23677
Mean age of areal population - years	42.1	43.1
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.8	43.6

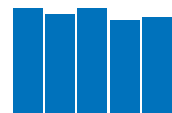


2010 - 2012

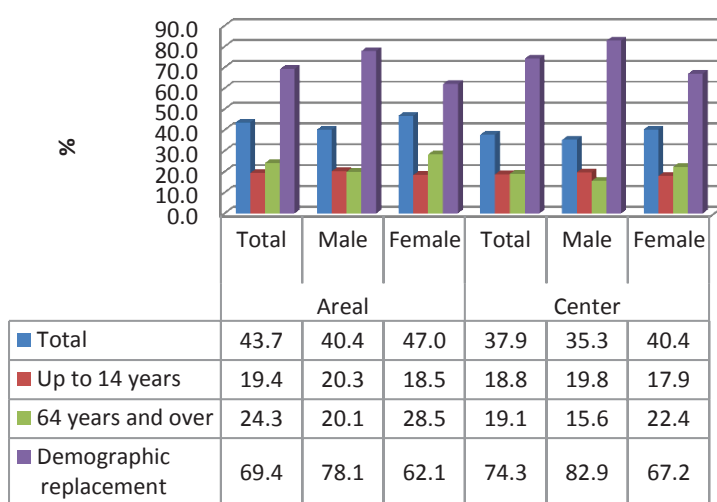


2015 - 2016

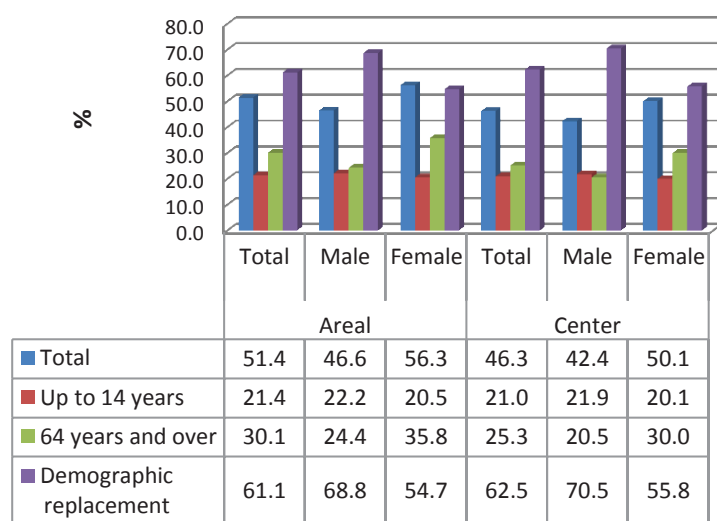
Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



***Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex***



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

The number and share of area population aged up to 14 years increases due to the increase of young people in the city. Working age population decreases by more than 8 000, 86% of which is due to the decrease in the city. The oldest population increases by more than 4 thousand. The changes in age structure are due to transition of population from middle to the higher ages. The last is more obvious in the city, where the mean age increases by nearly 3 years.

Age dependency ratio increases by almost 8 per 100 persons, but remains lower than the country average. The demographic replacement rate is so deteriorating, or the labor force reproduction is below the country average.

## Areal with center city of Haskovo

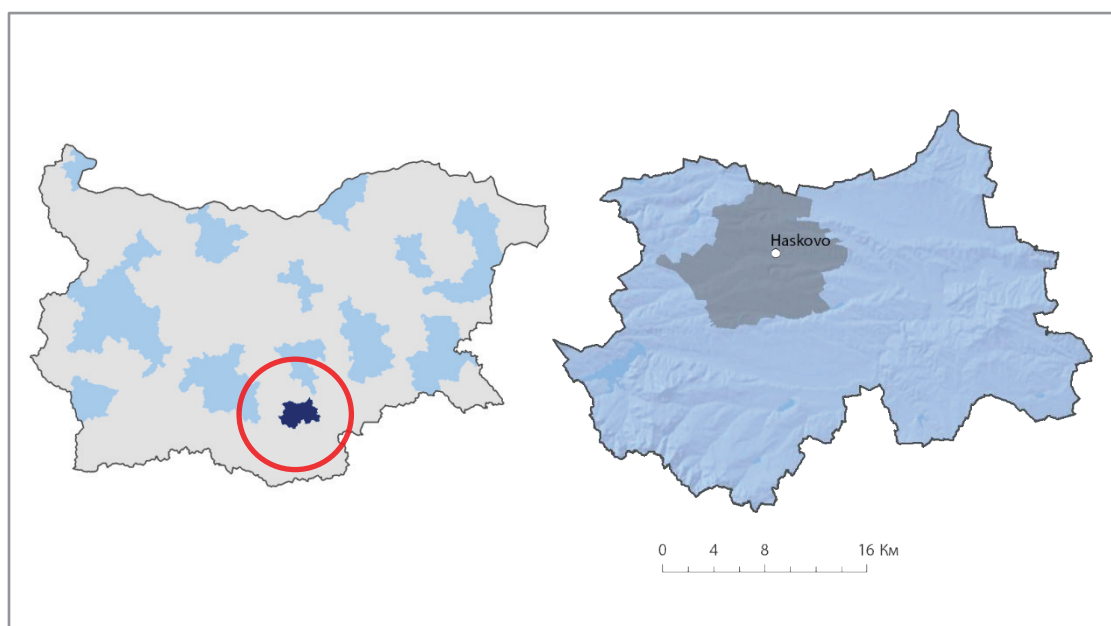
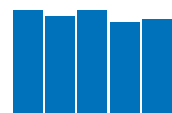


Figure II.15.1. Area of Haskovo - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
HKV34	Haskovo Areal	739.8	94559	128	88907	120

## Population natural growth

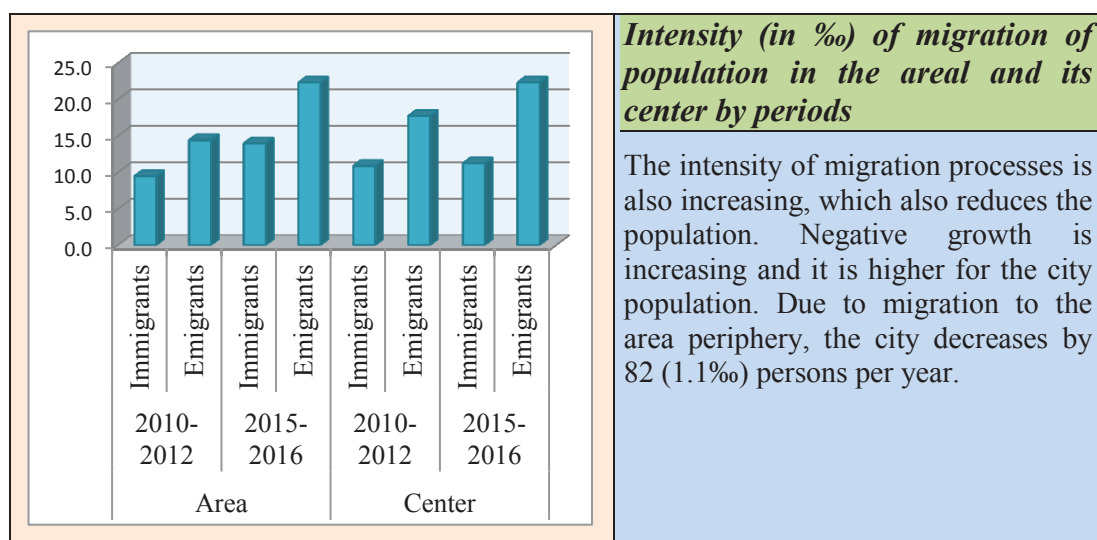
Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	94559	88907
○ male	45422	42667
○ female	49137	46240
Average number of live births	910	795
Average number of deaths	1178	1285
Absolute natural growth - number	-269	-490
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.62	8.94
Crude death rate - ‰	12.46	14.45
Natural growth rate - ‰	-2.84	-5.51
Average annual population of the areal center	76088	72011
○ male	36297	34363
○ female	39791	37649
Average annual number of births in the areal center	759	636
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	821	903
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-62	-267
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	9.98	8.83
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	10.79	12.53
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-0.81	-3.70



The negative tendencies in the demographic development of area with center city of Haskovo are increasing. Birth rate decreases, while mortality rate increases. Natural population growth is negative and increases twice in the area and 3 times in the center, or annually the population decreases by 5.6 thousand persons.

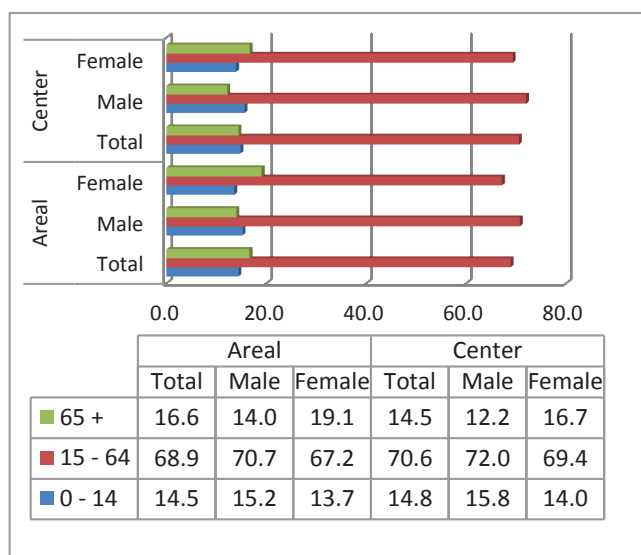
### *Migration*

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	895	1243
Average annual number of emigrants	1364	1985
Absolute migration growth	-469	-742
Migration growth rate - ‰	-4.96	-8.34
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	829	809
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1348	1609
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-519	-800
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-6.82	-11.11

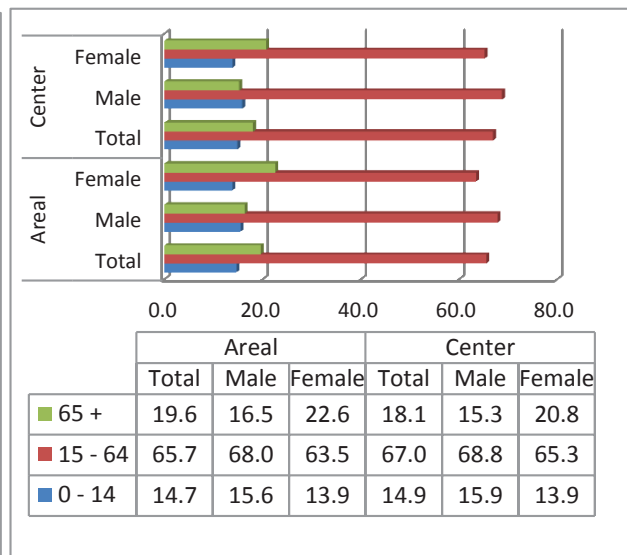


### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	13667	13069
Population aged 15 - 64 years	65153	58377
Population aged 65 and over	15740	17461
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	11286	10706
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	53744	48238
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	11058	13068
Mean age of areal population - years	41.7	43.4
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.7	42.8

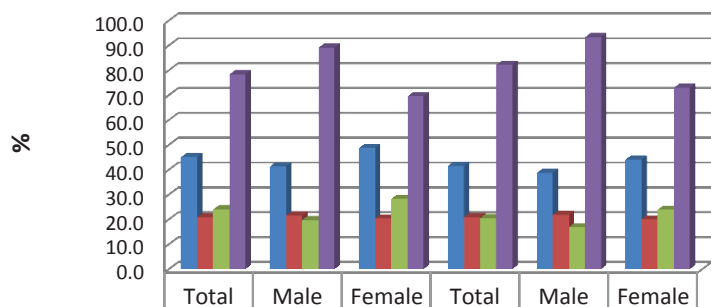
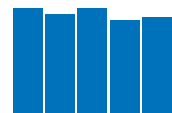


2010 - 2012



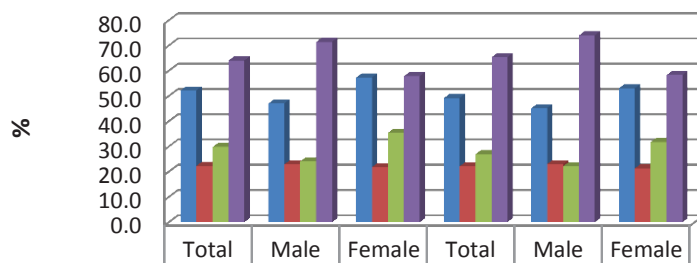
2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	45.1	41.4	48.8	41.6	38.8	44.2
Up to 14 years	21.0	21.5	20.4	21.0	21.9	20.2
64 years and over	24.2	19.8	28.4	20.6	16.9	24.0
Demographic replacement	78.5	89.1	69.6	82.2	93.4	73.0

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	52.3	47.1	57.4	49.3	45.3	53.1
Up to 14 years	22.4	22.9	21.9	22.2	23.1	21.3
64 years and over	29.9	24.2	35.5	27.1	22.2	31.8
Demographic replacement	64.1	71.5	57.9	65.4	74.2	58.4

2015 - 2016

**Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex**

The population decrease in the area concerns the youngest population also. Its share remain the same, but in absolute terms it decreases by 600 people. The population aged 15 - 64 also decreases - 6.8 thousand total for the area, of which 5.5 thousand in the city. The number and share of the oldest population also increases, showing a tendency to equalize its share in the area with that of the city.

Demographic development of the area and city population aggravates demographic dependency ratio. It changes from 45 to 52 persons corresponding to 100 working age population. The decrease of the demographic replacement indicator is very high - from 78% to 64% for the area and from 82% to 65% for the population in the city.



## Areal with center city of Shumen

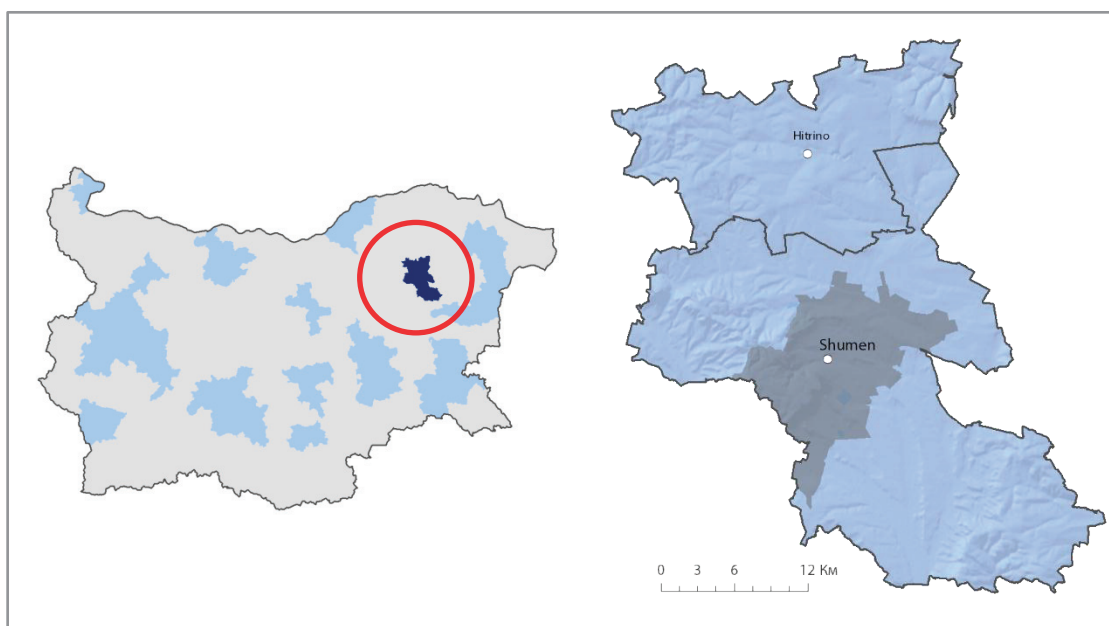
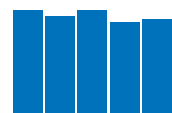


Figure II.16.1. Area of Shumen - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016		
		Population	Density	Population	Density	
SHU11	Hitrino	289.4	6271	22	6510	22
SHU30	Shumen	652.3	97044	149	89532	137
<b>Areal</b>		<b>941.7</b>	<b>103315</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>96042</b>	<b>102</b>

## Population natural growth

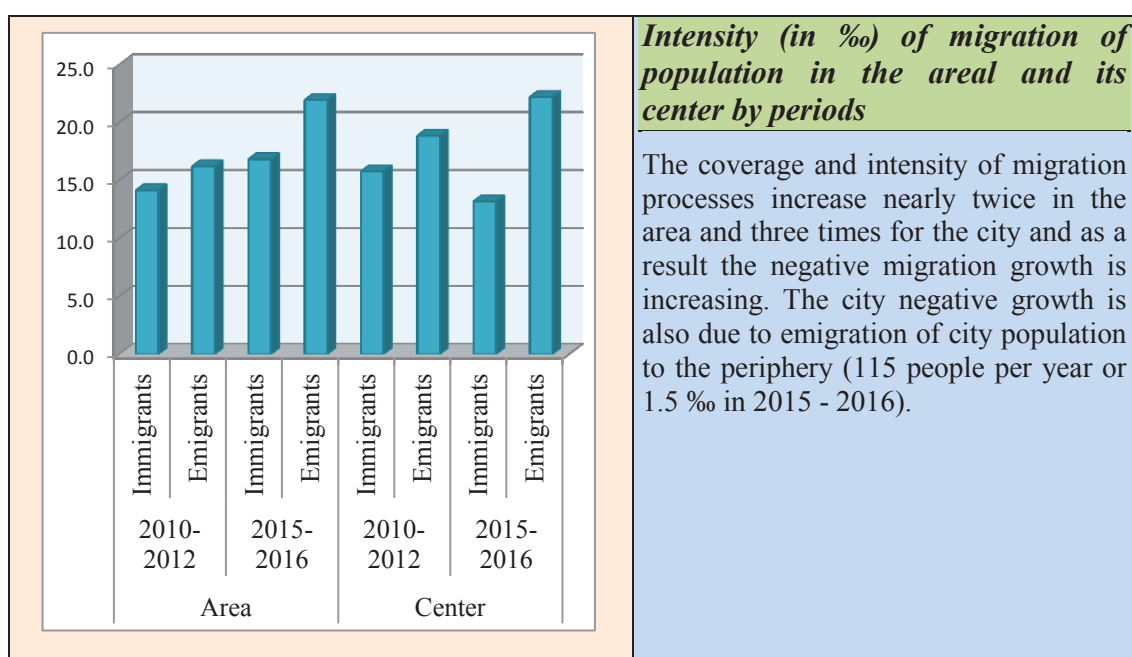
Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	103315	96042
○ male	49720	46437
○ female	53596	49605
Average number of live births	965	856
Average number of deaths	1416	1389
Absolute natural growth - number	-451	-533
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.34	8.91
Crude death rate - ‰	13.71	14.46
Natural growth rate - ‰	-4.36	-5.55
Average annual population of the areal center	83428	77338
○ male	39781	37033
○ female	43647	40305
Average annual number of births in the areal center	808	707
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	998	969
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-190	-262
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	9.68	9.14
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	11.96	12.53
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-2.27	-3.39



Area population decreases by more than 7 thousand, but mainly (84%) due to the decrease of the city of Shumen population. Birth rate decreases both in the area and city and is lower than the country average. The mortality rate is rising. Natural growth is negative. Total for the area it reaches minus 5.6 ‰ and in the city decreases from minus 2.3 to minus 4.4 ‰.

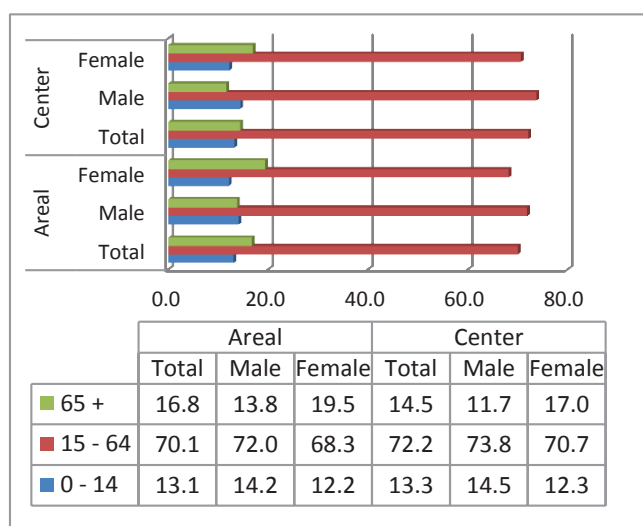
### *Migration*

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	1461	1616
Average annual number of emigrants	1674	2107
Absolute migration growth	-214	-491
Migration growth rate - ‰	-2.07	-5.11
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	1315	1020
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1572	1716
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-257	-697
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-3.08	-9.01

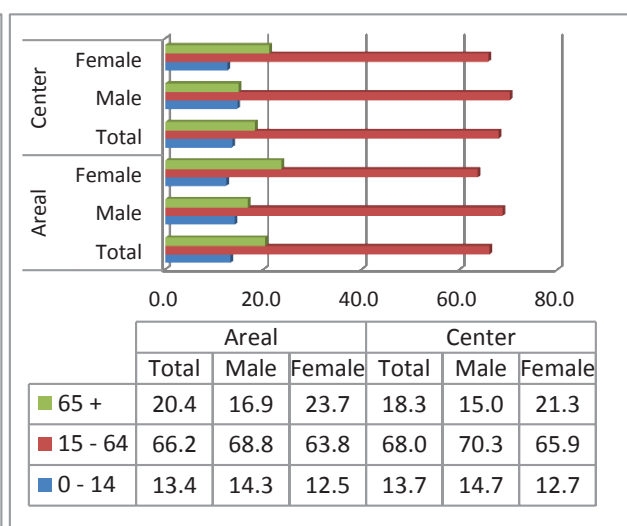


### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	13581	12826
Population aged 15 - 64 years	72406	63586
Population aged 65 and over	17328	19630
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	11120	10590
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	60253	52599
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	12056	14150
Mean age of areal population - years	41.7	43.8
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.6	42.9

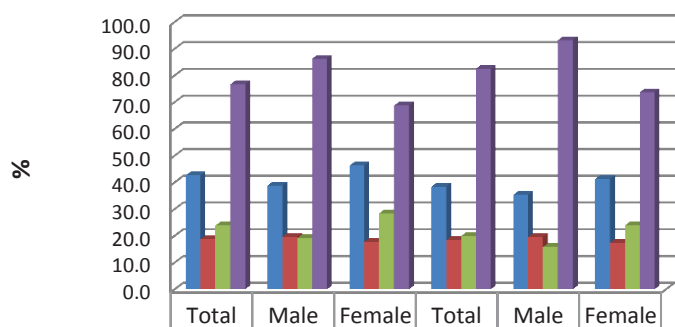
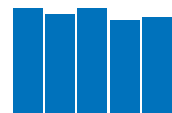


2010 - 2012



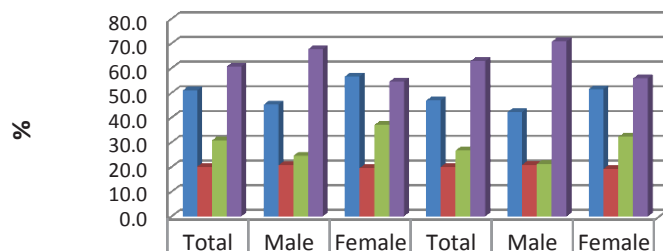
2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	42.7	38.9	46.4	38.5	35.4	41.4
Up to 14 years	18.8	19.7	17.9	18.5	19.6	17.4
64 years and over	23.9	19.2	28.5	20.0	15.8	24.0
Demographic replacement	76.8	86.3	68.9	82.6	93.3	73.8

2010 - 2012



	Areal			Center		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	51.0	45.3	56.8	47.0	42.3	51.6
Up to 14 years	20.2	20.7	19.6	20.1	21.0	19.3
64 years and over	30.9	24.6	37.2	26.9	21.4	32.3
Demographic replacement	60.8	67.8	54.7	62.9	70.9	56.1

2015 - 2016

**Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex**

The population decrease covers young people and those of working age. The proportion of population aged 15 - 64 decreases by 4% in the area and in its center. The number and share of the oldest population is increasing. Now it is 20.4 in the area and 18.3% in the city. The aging of population is proved by an increase of its mean age by more than 2 years.

The demographic dependency ratio increases from 43 to 51 persons in dependent ages per 100 persons in independent ones, but it is still below the country average. The number of people aged 15 - 19 compared to those aged 60 - 64, decreases by nearly 17 in the area and 20 in the city.

## Areal with center city of Yambol

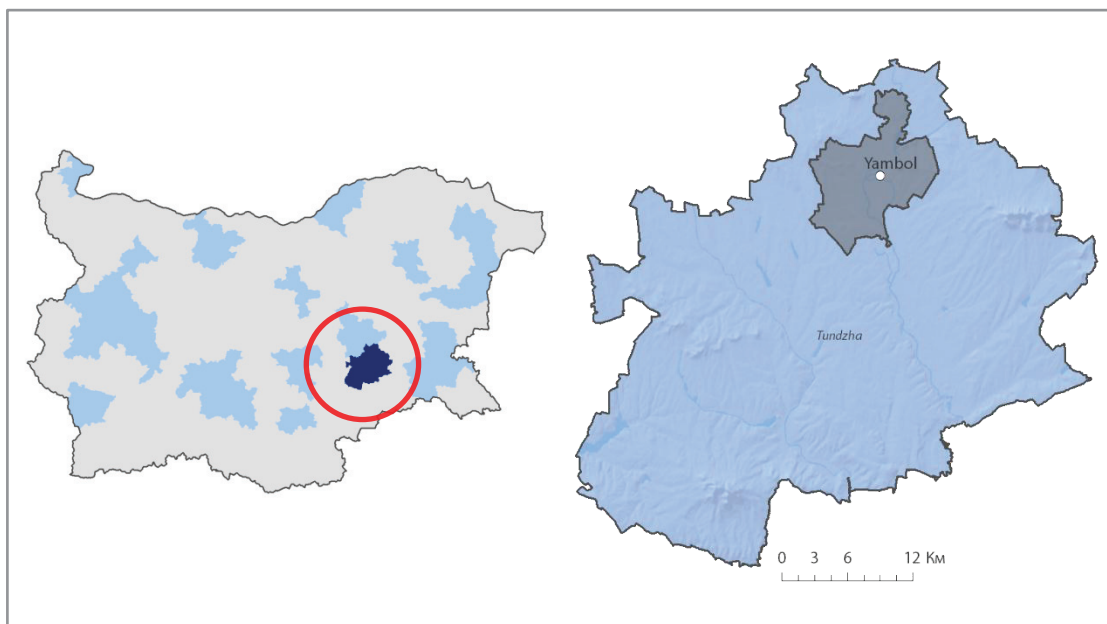
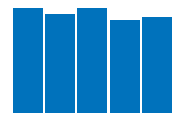


Figure II.1.1. Area of Yambol - municipalities, average annual population, territory and density (per 1 sq. km) by periods

	Municipality	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Period 2010 - 2012		Period 2015 - 2016	
			Population	Density	Population	Density
JAM25	Tundzha	1218.9	24963	21	22506	18
JAM26	Yambol	90.7	74662	823	69883	770
	<b>Areal</b>	<b>1309.6</b>	<b>99625</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>92389</b>	<b>71</b>

## Population natural growth

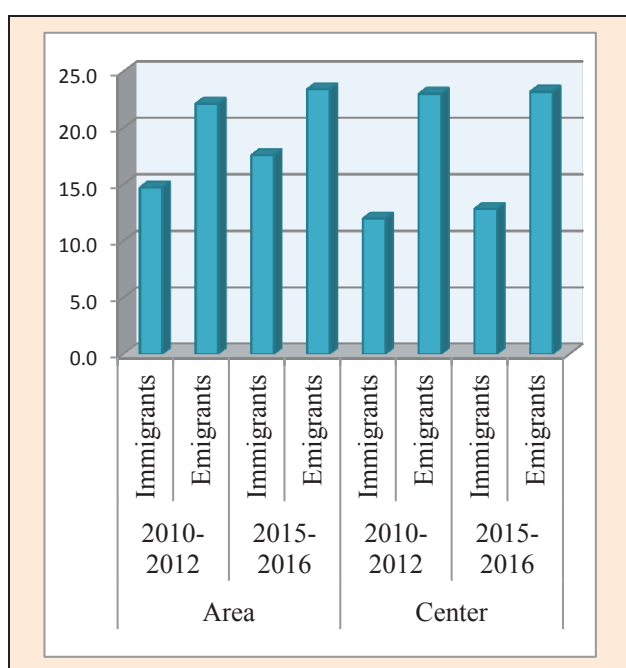
Average annual demographic indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual population	99625	92389
○ male	48577	45102
○ female	51048	47287
Average number of live births	972	847
Average number of deaths	1577	1546
Absolute natural growth - number	-605	-700
Crude birth rate - ‰	9.75	9.16
Crude death rate - ‰	15.83	16.73
Natural growth rate - ‰	-6.07	-7.57
Average annual population of the areal center	74662	69883
○ male	36199	33934
○ female	38463	35950
Average annual number of births in the areal center	783	640
Average annual number of deaths in the areal center	912	925
Absolute natural growth of the areal center	-129	-285
Crude birth rate in the areal center - ‰	10.49	9.16
Crude death rate in the areal center - ‰	12.22	13.24
Natural growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-1.73	-4.08



The area population decreases by more than 7 thousand. Birth rate decreases, has the same level both in the area and the city and is close to the country average. Mortality increases, and as a result, the natural growth rate reaches minus 7.6 ‰, a value that is much higher than the country average. For the city population, this indicator is lower in absolute terms, but also negative.

### *Migration*

Migration indicators	2010 - 2012	2015 - 2016
Average annual number of immigrants	1468	1626
Average annual number of emigrants	2206	2165
Absolute migration growth	-738	-539
Migration growth rate - ‰	-7.41	-5.83
Average annual number of immigrants in the areal center	895	898
Average annual number of emigrants in the areal center	1719	1622
Absolute migration growth in the areal center	-823	-725
Migration growth rate in the areal center - ‰	-11.03	-10.37

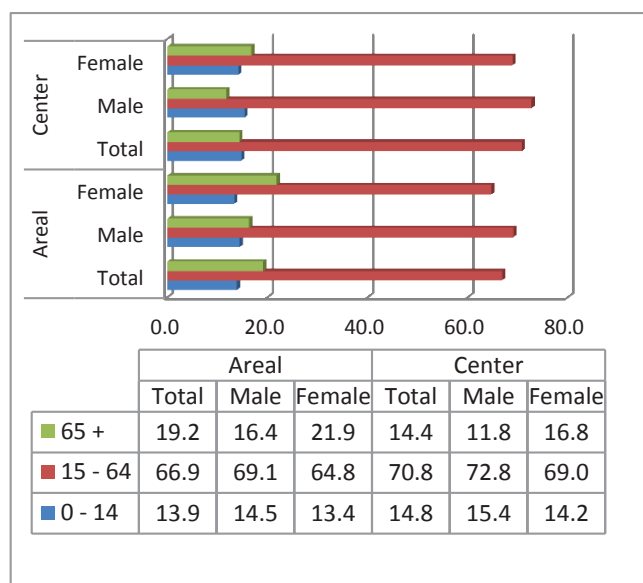


### *Intensity (in %) of migration of population in the areal and its center by periods*

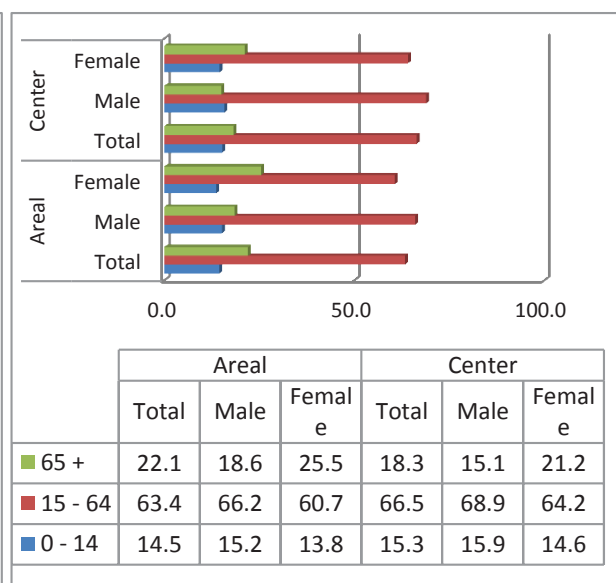
Migration growth is negative and decreases in value due to the decrease in the number of emigrants. The city population has a higher negative growth than the area one. In 2015 - 2016 period, the city population decreases annually by 233 (minus 3.3 ‰) due to migration to the periphery.

### Age structure

Average annual population by age	2010-2012	2015-2016
Population aged 0 - 14 years	13864	13384
Population aged 15 - 64 years	66656	58558
Population aged 65 and over	19105	20448
Population aged 0 - 14 years in the areal center	11035	10662
Population aged 15 - 64 years in the areal center	52890	46467
Population aged 65 and over in the areal center	10738	12755
Mean age of areal population - years	43.2	44.5
Mean age of areal center population - years	40.9	42.8

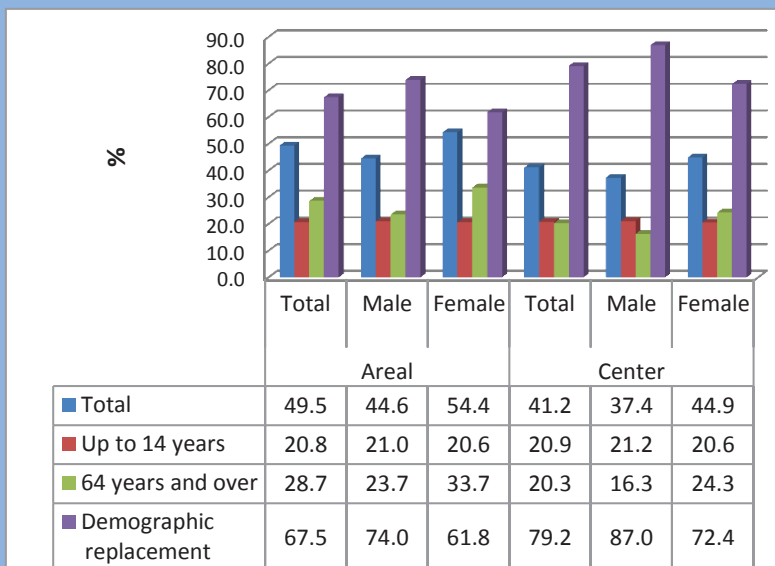
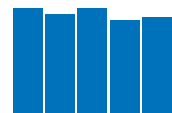


2010 - 2012

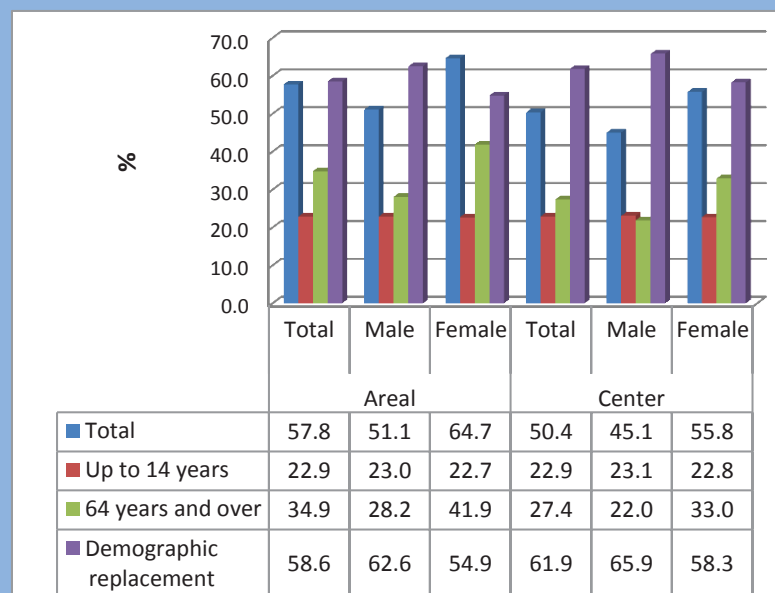


2015 - 2016

Age structure (in %) of the average annual population of the areal and its center



2010 - 2012



2015 - 2016

### *Rates (in %) of demographic dependency and demographic replacement rate in the areal and its center - total and by sex*

The youngest population decreases insignificantly and its relative share grew slightly in the population age structure. Population aged 15 - 64 decreases by more than 8 000, from 67 to 63% in the area and from 71 to 66% in the city. An increase is observed in the share of oldest people (65+) and population mean age, which is 44.5 years. The last is among the highest compared to the rest areas. As regard the city population, the mean age occupies an intermediate position (42.8 years).

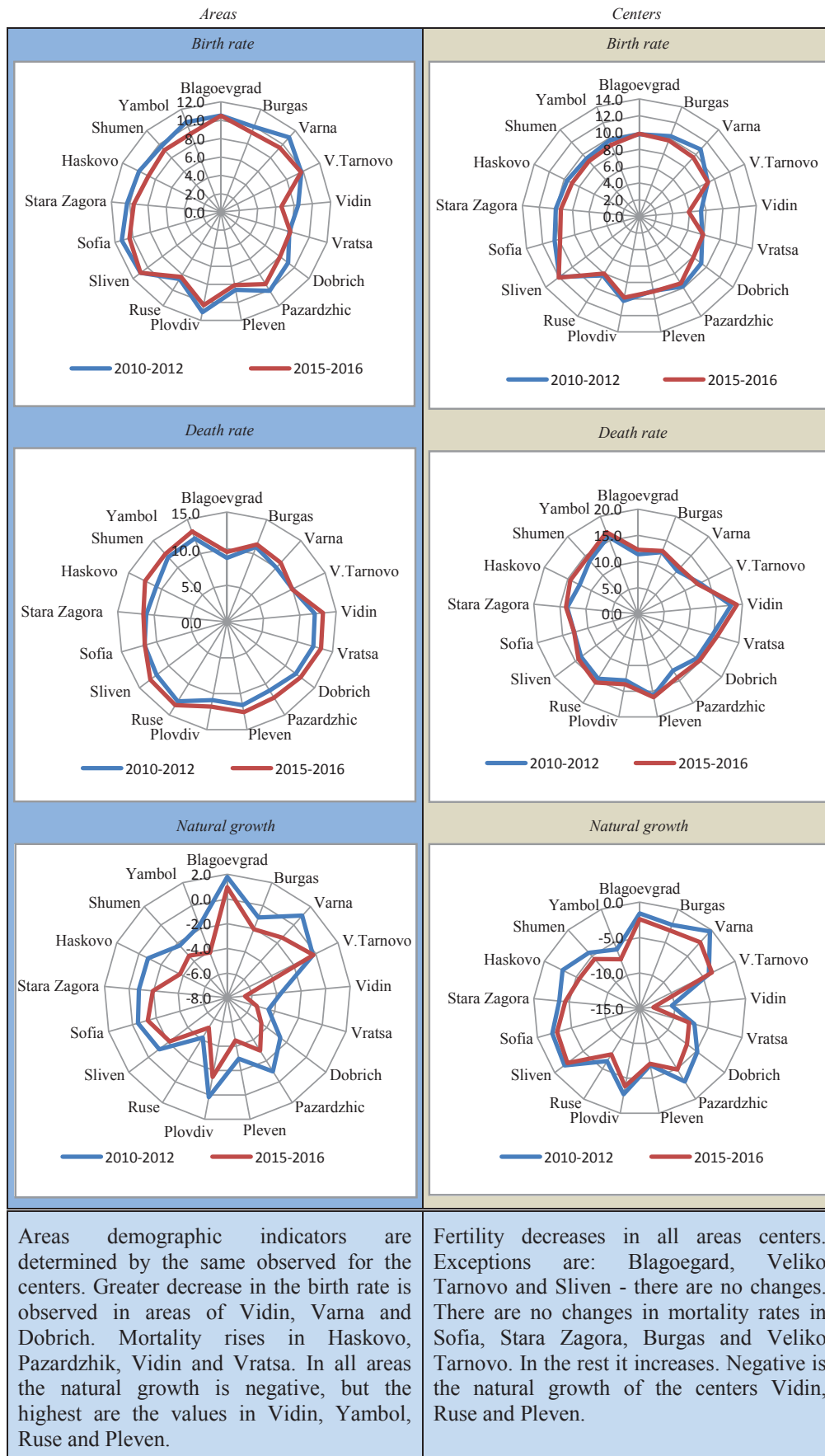
An increase is observed in the number of persons in dependent ages corresponding to 100 persons in independent ones - from 50 to 58 in the area and from 41 to 50 in the city. The demographic replacement rate is below the country average.



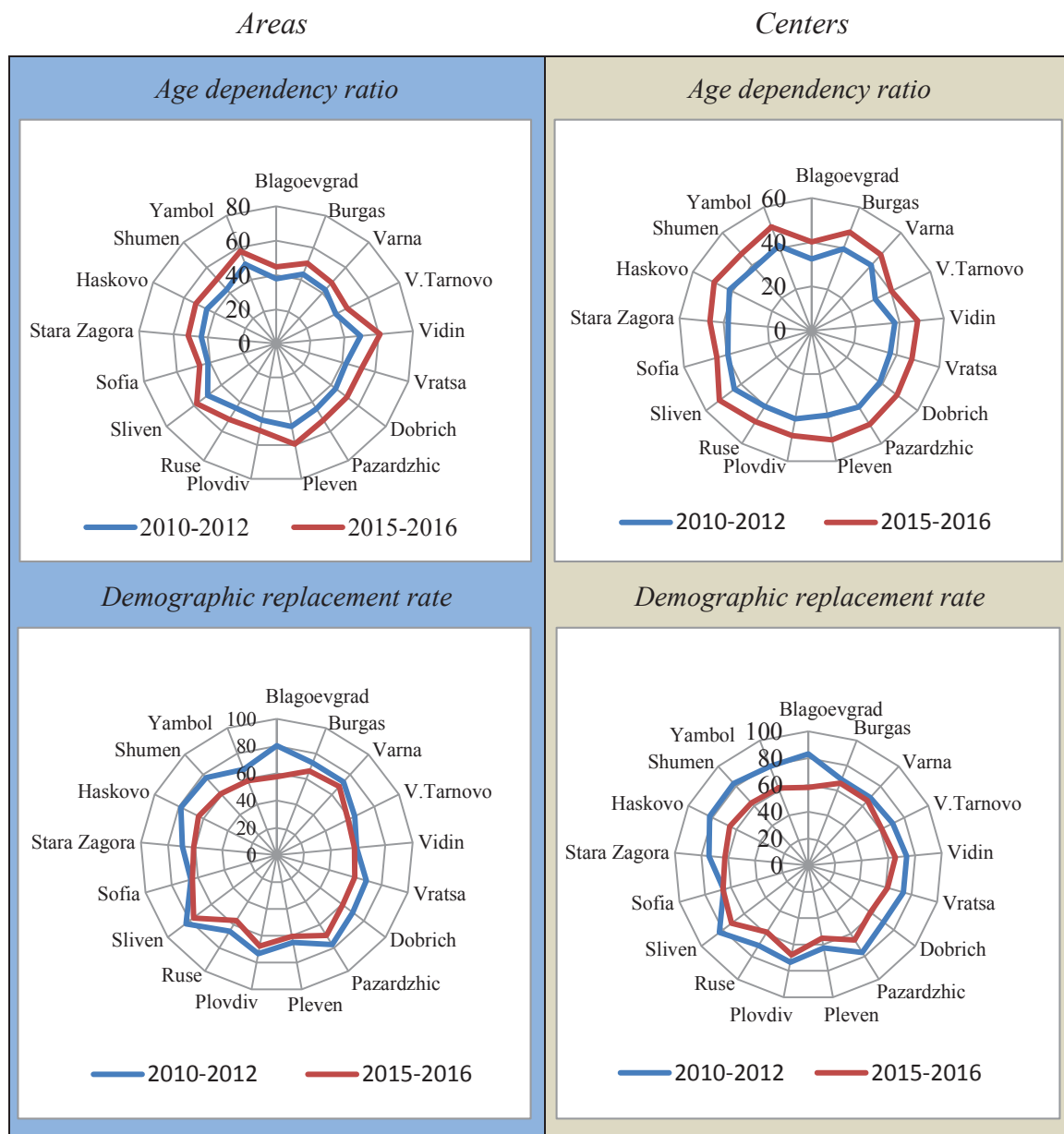


III. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF AREAS AND THEIR CENTERS

Demographic development rates



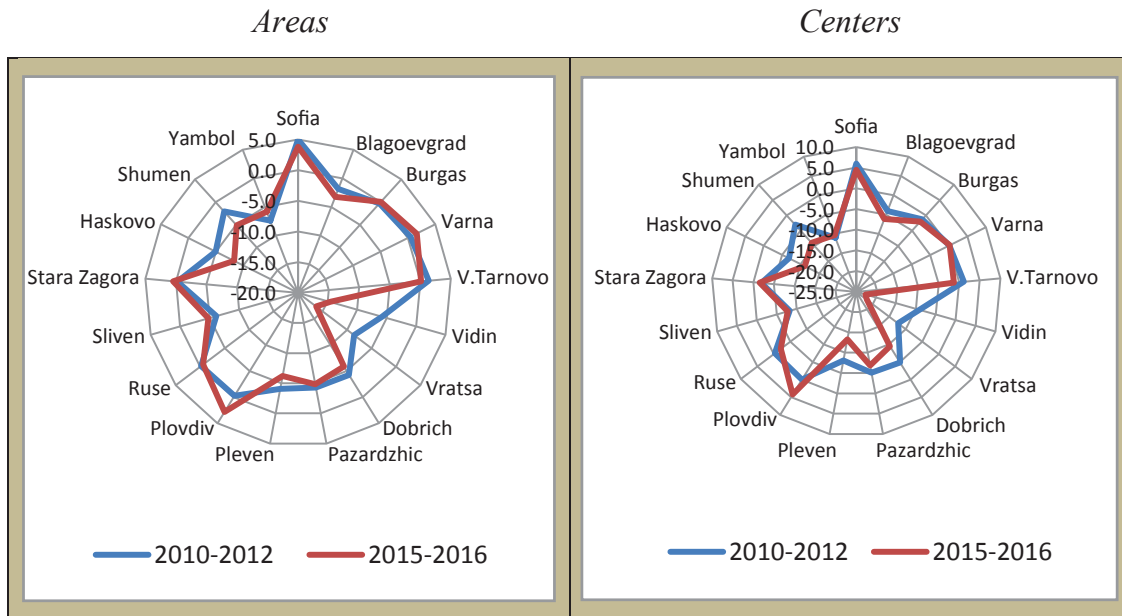
#### Age dependencies



The country demographic development tendencies determine the uniform worsening of the ratio between number of population out of working age and working age (15 - 64 years) population in all areas. In the period 2015 - 2016 the highest are the values in the areas of Vidin and Pleven - 60 persons out of working age per 100 persons of independent ages. High (57 per 100 persons) is the value and in the area of Sliven, but it is mainly due to the higher share of the population up to 14 years. There are no changes in the demographic dependencies in the area centers in Sofia, while the changes in cities of Burgas, Varna and Plovdiv are insignificant. Highest are the negative changes in cities of Blagoevgrad, Shumen, Yambol and Haskovo.

Expectations are the pointed tendencies to deepen in the coming years due to shrinking the reproduction of working age population. Most negative are the demographic replacement rates in the areas of Blagoevgrad, Shumen, Haskovo and Yambol. There are no changes in areas of Sofia, Vidin, Veliko Tarnovo and Varna - tendencies are mainly determined by the demographic situation in their centers. Significant worsening of demographic replacement rates is observed in cities of Pleven, Blagoevgrad, Shumen, Haskovo and Yambol. In the previous period, these cities indicators have been better than in the rest cities.

*Areas and centers migration growth*



In the period 2010 - 2012, the highest positive migration rate is registered for the capital area with center city of Sofia - close to 5%. The migration growth for the city is bigger - nearly 6%. Among the rest areas, small (less than 1%) positive growth is observed in areas with centers Varna and Veliko Tarnovo. Their centers as well as city of Plovdiv also have a positive growth. Low negative growth is observed in the areas of Plovdiv, Burgas and Stara Zagora. The highest negative migration growth is recorded in the areas of Vratsa, Yambol, Sliven and Vidin - over minus 5%. The rest areas have lower negative growth.

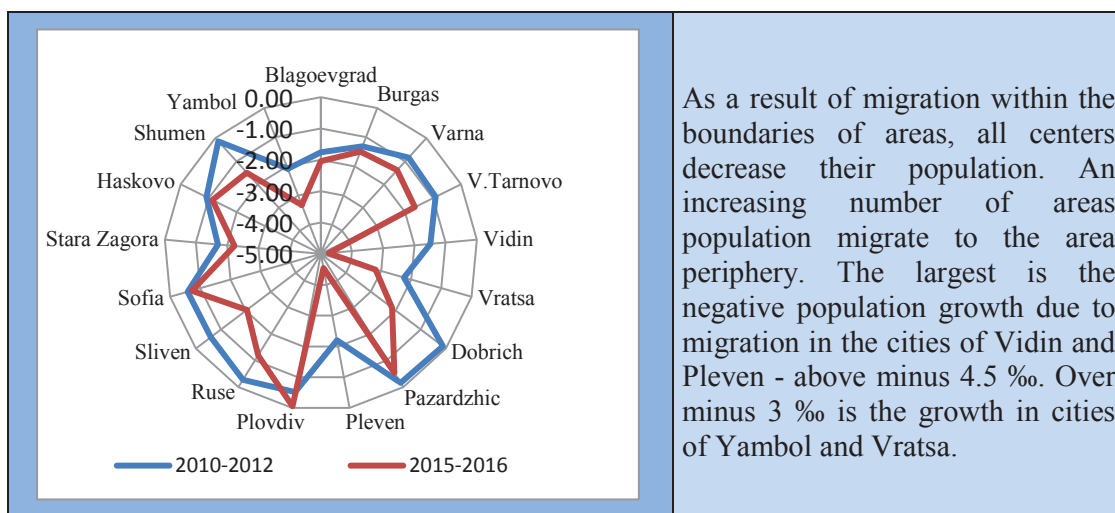
Migration rates for cities are higher- more than minus 8% in the cities of Vratsa, Yambol, Vidin, Sliven and Pleven. Lowest (-0.3%) negative growth is observed in the city of Ruse.

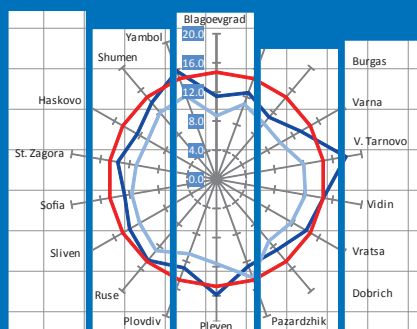
In the period 2015 - 2016, the number of areas, in which the migration growth is positive, increases. The capital area has a positive growth, but it is smaller (3.8%) than in the previous period. The city of Sofia also reduced its growth to 4.5%. The migration growth of the area of Plovdiv (2.9%) and the city (4.2%) increased significantly. The area of Varna and its center also have a positive growth. In the areas of Veliko Tarnovo and Stara Zagora migration growth is very low (less than 1%) but their centers have a negative growth rate of up to minus 1.5%. Out of the rest areas, with the highest negative growth are areas of Vratsa (-16%) and Vidin (-14%). The negative value of the areas of Haskovo, Pleven and Dobrich has increased significantly - the growth is from -6 to -8%. In the remaining areas, migration growth also increases, but with smaller values.

Migration concerns mainly the areas centers. Migration growth of the cities of Vidin and Vratsa reaches minus 23%. Very high is the increase of negative migration growth in Pleven (-13%), while in the cities of Sliven, Dobrich, Shumen, Yambol and Haskovo the migration growth is between minus 8 and minus 11%. Indirectly, these cities economic and social potential can not provide the necessary employment and living conditions, responding to the modern needs of the people.

*Average annual population growth due to migration between the areas centers and periphery*

Area centers	2010 - 2012		2015 - 2016	
	Absolute growth - in numbers	Relative growth - ‰	Absolute growth - in numbers	Relative growth - ‰
Blagoevgrad	-123	-1.75	-142	-2.03
Burgas	-260	-1.32	-304	-1.50
Varna	-277	-0.84	-463	-1.38
Велико Търново	-62	-0.91	-113	-1.64
Видин	-72	-1.49	-205	-4.75
Враца	-134	-2.24	-172	-3.18
Добрич	-10	-0.11	-184	-2.14
Пазарджик	-12	-0.16	-37	-0.53
Плевен	-238	-2.20	-450	-4.54
Пловдив	-178	-0.52	-21	-0.06
Русе	-73	-0.28	-174	-1.20
Сливен	-52	-0.60	-179	-2.04
София	-692	-0.58	-890	-0.72
Стара Загора	-235	-1.70	-306	-2.24
Хасково	-70	-0.92	-82	-1.13
Шумен	-12	-0.14	-115	-1.49
Ямбол	-155	-2.08	-233	-3.33





**CITIES AND THEIR URBANISED AREAS IN  
THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
2010 - 2016**