

Extended Migration Profile of the Republic of Moldova 2007–2012



Government of the Republic of Moldova



International Organization for Migration (IOM)



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Extended Migration Profile of the Republic of Moldova 2007–2012

Analytical Report



Ministry of Internal Affairs
of the Republic of Moldova
Bureau of Migration and Asylum



International Organization for Migration (IOM)



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LIST of ABBREVIATIONS

LFS	Labour Force Survey
BMA	Bureau of Migration and Asylum
NBM	National Bank of Moldova
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
HBS	Households Budget Survey
NSIC	National Social Insurance Company
CIS	Community of Independent States
BPD	Border Police Department
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
MFAEI	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
MF	Ministry of Finance
MLSPF	Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family
MITC	Ministry of Information Technology and Communications
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
IOM	International Organization for Migration
UN	United Nations
GDP	Gross domestic product
EMP	Extended Migration Profile
RM	Republic of Moldova
IAISMA	Integrated Automated Information System “Migration and Asylum”
NRS	National Referral System
THB	Trafficking in human beings
EU	European Union

Introduction and acknowledgements

This report is edited and published under the project “Making Migration in Moldova Work for Development,” implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The analyses and findings revealed in this present report, as well as the interpretations and conclusions expressed herewith, belong to the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of SDC, IOM or any other partner in the project.

This analytical report represents a continuation of a complex exercise initiated in 2010: the Extended Migration Profile (EMP) of the Republic of Moldova. The first edition of the EMP analytical report covered a detailed analysis of migration data for 2005 to 2010. The entire process of supporting the development of the first edition encompassed a set of multilateral actions and synergy among all stakeholders, which served as assistance for improving the collection and exchange of data, and promoting wider coherence and a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to the development of migration policies.

This second edition of the analytical report, which covers the years 2007 to 2012, was developed by the Bureau for Migration and Asylum (BMA) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova. The bureau has been designated by Government Decree No. 634 (dated 24 August 2012) as the institution responsible for producing the EMP, on the approval of the EMP template and list of indicators. The Editing Committee of the BMA, included Ms Olga Poalelungi, president of the Committee, Director of BMA, and Ms Jana Mazur, Head of the Information Development, data management and risk analysis unit, of the BMA Legal and Policy Directorate.

This edition is also the result of a huge joint effort to collect and analyse data, to which a number of institutions and persons have contributed in different ways, all equally important. In this context, acknowledgements are expressed to all members and observers of the Technical Working Group for their active participation and valuable input.

Maria Vremis, one of the main experts who contributed to the development of the first edition of the EMP, covering the 2005–2010 period, provided considerable support in terms of editing the text of this report, so as to ensure the compliance of its structure and content with the requirements set forth in Government Decree No. 634 and with the international requirements for editing and publishing migration profiles.

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Republic of Moldova: Key Data

Geography		
Total area, in sq km ¹	2012	33,800
Economy and development		
GDP per capita, in USD (2012 value) ²	2012	2,229
Human Development Index ³	2012	0.660 (medium human development)
Population		
Total resident population ⁴	2012	3,559,500
Population forecast ⁵	2050	3,129,800
Foreigner population ⁶	2012	20,191
Population born abroad ⁷	2012	268,836
International migration		
Net international migration rate ⁸ , per 1000 population ⁹	2005– 2010	-9.4 -5.9
Net international migration rate, per 1000 population	2010– 2015	

¹ NBS, 2012.

² NBS, 2014.

³ UNDP, 2013.

⁴ Stable population by sex and areas of residence, at the beginning of the year, 1970–2012. Available from <http://statbank.statistica.md/pxweb/Database/RO/02%20POP/POP01/POP01.asp>.

⁵ Paladi et al., 2009. The forecast was calculated based on three scenarios: (a) a closed-type population; (b) without taking migration into consideration; (c) taking account of the lack of complete data on migration processes. According to the pessimistic scenario, the number of inhabitants may decrease by 2050 to 2,596,200 persons (according to the moderately pessimistic scenario, 2,830,800, and the optimist scenario, 3,129,800).

⁶ The total number of foreigners, including Stateless persons, staying in the Republic of Moldova as of 31 December 2012. Data submitted for the EMP Matrix (Table 21 in Annex 2).

⁷ The number of persons born abroad, regardless of citizenship, as of 31 December 2012. Data submitted for the EMP Matrix (Table 25 in Annex 2).

⁸ Hereinafter, "migration" has the meaning of international migration, except in cases where the attributive "internal" is placed in front of "migration" or "migrant".

⁹ UNDP, 2014.

Executive Summary

This present edition of the *Extended Migration Profile (EMP) of the Republic of Moldova, 2007–2012: Analytical Report*, is a country-owned tool developed in consultation with a wide number of government and non-government stakeholders, to be used for enhancing policy coherence, evidence-based policymaking, and mainstreaming migration into national development planning.

This EMP analytical report covers four basic blocks of information and analysis, namely, Part A: *Migration Trends*; Part B: *Migration Impact*; Part C: *Migration Management Framework*; and Part D: *Main Findings, Policy Implications and Recommendations*.

The migration studies that have been carried out reveal that economic reasons remain to be the main push factor for Moldovan migrants, especially the lack of local employment opportunities and the small salaries offered in the country's labour market. The migration phenomenon in the Moldovan context continues to be characterized more by the international emigration of the country's population and less by the immigration of persons from abroad. In general terms, three approaches are used to estimate international emigration from the Republic of Moldova, namely:

- (a) Authorized (i.e. "documented") emigration, which involves deregistration from the place of residence and declaration of long-term emigration (or "emigration for good"), also known in the country as "permanent emigration";
- (b) Labour migration, that is, leaving to work or to look for a job abroad, with the intention to return, also termed "temporary/circular migration";
- (c) Exit from the country, which is registered at the border, including, de facto, both authorized/permanent emigration and temporary/circular migration.

Although **authorized** emigration from the Republic of Moldova continues to be significant, as shown by data estimates from the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications (i.e. the SE SIRC "Registru," or the State Enterprise Centre for State Information Resources "Registry"), the phenomenon is registering a decreasing trend. According to official data, 7,172 persons emigrated in 2007; the number decreased in 2012 by almost 43 per cent, corresponding to 3,129 persons. It is mainly the urban population that emigrates: In 2012 more than double the number of persons from urban (2,152) as from rural areas (977 persons) emigrated. According to the data estimated based on authorized emigration, the number of Moldovan citizens going abroad continues to increase: This number increased by 26,000 persons from 2007 to 2012, accounting for a total of 99,352 persons.

Another important source of information that offers the possibility to estimate the volume of emigration according to the international definition, are State border crossing registrations (provided by the Border Police Department (BPD)), specifically, data about the duration of a person's stay outside the country. By the end of 2012, a total of 330,167 persons

had stayed abroad for more than 12 months: This number corresponds to an increase of 92,517 persons (38.9%) from 2008 and 22,688 persons (7.4 %) from 2011.

According to the data presented by the National Employment Agency (NEA), the number of Moldovans working in host countries with legal labour contracts concluded through NEA remains quite small. It should be mentioned that in 2012, 603 such official labour contracts were concluded.

The number of Moldovan citizens studying abroad under international education agreements showed an increasing pattern during the reference period, specifically, by 2.2 times in 2012, corresponding to 5,356 persons, as compared to 2007, and 1.8 times in 2011, accounting for 4,270 persons.

Involuntary emigration registered a significant drop in 2012 as compared to 2007. The analysis in this context is based on information obtained from international databases. According to these data, the number of Moldovan citizens registered as asylum-seekers abroad totalled 909 in 2007, going down to 460 persons in 2011 and 441 persons in 2012.

Taking into account that the information provided by the BPD only contains data about border crossings accumulated from the State border crossing points (which are under the control of Moldovan authorities), the total volume of Moldovan emigrants cannot be accurately measured, as emigration volume can be overestimated or underestimated due to the fact that persons may cross the border through the Transnistrian segment.

Temporary emigration. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) data reveal an approximately stable number of about 300,000 persons who were working abroad at any point from 2007 to 2012. In 2012 the number of Moldovans abroad increased, totalling 328,300, of whom 218,600 were men and 109,700 were women, as compared to 316,900 in 2011, of whom 204,400 were men and 112,500 were women.

The annual number of repatriated persons increased from 2007 to 2009. However, starting in 2010, the number of repatriated persons has decreased, with 1,488 persons in 2012, registering a negative increase rate of -14 per cent as compared to 2011. A certain number of children were registered among the repatriated persons, accounting for a share of 4.6 per cent out of the total number of repatriated persons in 2012.

During the reference period, the number of readmitted persons continuously increased, registering a nine-fold growth from 2007 to 2011. Readmitted persons numbered 54 persons in 2012, pointing either to the legalization of Moldovan citizens, or the observance of the stay regimes of the countries they were in.

Combatting trafficking in human beings. In 2012, 189 victims of trafficking in human beings (THB) were identified by the multidisciplinary teams of the National Referral System (NRS) – an increase of 5.5 times from 2007, a fact that may be explained by the increased efficiency of the process for identification of such victims. In the same year, 2012, a total of 1,214 potential THB victims were assisted, which is higher compared to the 651 assisted in 2011 and a 23-fold growth from 2007. It is, however, thought that the true number of such

potential victims may actually be higher, as there is an extended group of persons considered to be at a high risk of becoming THB victims.

By the end of 2012, the total number of foreigners (including Stateless persons) staying in the Republic of Moldova totalled 20,191, representing 0.6 per cent of the total population. The foreigner population growth rate from 2011 to 2012 was 2.6 per cent and for 2007 to 2012 was 35.9 per cent.

The total number of naturalized foreigners by the end of 2012 was 672 persons. It should be mentioned that Stateless persons represent 69.6 per cent of the total number of naturalized foreigners, followed by foreigners with undetermined citizenship, 22.6 per cent, and other foreigners (i.e. those who had another citizenship before), 7.8 per cent. In 2012, a mere 9 persons were naturalized, compared to 18 persons in 2011.

Non-natives. The number of persons born abroad (all citizenships) staying in the Republic of Moldova increased from 2007 to 2012. By the end of 2012, non-natives in the Republic of Moldova accounted for 7.6 per cent (268,836 persons) of the total population. The growth rate of non-natives from 2011 to 2012 was 2.4 per cent.

The annual number of immigrations into the Republic of Moldova over the last years has registered an uptrend, from 2,074 persons in 2007 to 3,116 persons in 2012. Hence, the population growth of foreign immigrants from 2011 to 2012 was 14.6 per cent. It is mainly men (with women accounting for only 41.7% of immigrants) and persons with specialized secondary education/higher education/science degrees (64.4%) who immigrate to the Republic of Moldova. By the end of 2012, the number of foreigners in the Republic of Moldova holding permanent stay permits numbered 12,240 persons, a growth of 7.5 per cent as compared to 2007. During the reference period, a significant increase was registered among foreigners coming to the Republic of Moldova for studies – the number has increased 1.5 times from 2007 to 2012.

The statistical data show that the number of asylum-seekers in the Republic of Moldova has varied continuously from 2007 to 2012. A total of 177 asylum applications (first request) were registered in 2012, corresponding to an increase of 2.4 times from 2007. It should be mentioned that there were 79 asylum-seekers with pending asylum applications by the end of 2012. The growth in the number of asylum-seekers with pending applications from 2011 to 2012 was 61.2 per cent.

In 2012, 45 foreigners benefited from humanitarian protection; however, 55 persons were refused humanitarian protection. According to national statistical data, 1,262 persons in the Republic of Moldova were documented as Stateless in 2012, which is 197 persons more than in 2007. At the same time, there is a decreasing trend in the share of Stateless persons among foreigners: 9.2 per cent in 2012, as compared to 12.6 per cent in 2007. By the end of 2012, 72 persons were living in the Republic of Moldova as refugees, registering a growth of 128.6 per cent from 2011.

The demographic decline registered in the country over the last decades was also observed during the reference period (2007–2012), when the stable population decreased

by over 13,000. The last two years, however, have registered some stabilization trends, confirmed by a number of indicators in the respective areas. Population growth rate from 2011 to 2012 was zero; negative natural growth decreased significantly, registered at only -0.03 in 2012 and -0.02 in 2011, as compared to -1.42 in 2007. Meanwhile, this phenomenon continues to negatively influence other sociodemographic indicators. It may be noted that during the reference period, the number of registered marriages decreased from 29,200 in 2007 to 24,300 in 2012, accounting for 6.8 marriages per 1,000 population; in 2012 the divorce rate accounted for 3.0 divorces per 1,000 population.

Demographic composition. Some other demographic factors have deteriorated in parallel. It may be noted that the share of persons aged under 15 years old decreased from 17.57 per cent in 2007 to 16.09 per cent in 2012. Conversely, the share of the elderly people increased – from 17.52 per cent in 2007 to 21.68 per cent in 2012. The demographic dependency ratio remains rather high in 2012 at over 50 per cent. Migration amplifies the country's population ageing, as mainly young people of working age participate in it; in 2012 the ageing coefficient registered at 15.3, coming close to the critical value of 16 – revealing a rather advanced status of the said phenomenon. In women's case, the ageing coefficient is even higher, reaching 17.8.

Urban versus rural. The migration phenomenon, which is more pronounced in rural than in urban areas, has significantly influenced the demographic situation in villages. The demographic indicators confirm the human capital degradation believed to be happening in rural areas. In 2012 the dependency ratio in rural areas exceeded by almost 10 percentage points that in urban areas; the rural share of people aged 65 years old and over exceeds by 1.6 percentage points that of the urban share; and the old age ratio in rural areas exceeds that in urban areas by 3.8 per cent. At the same time, there is an uptrend for the urbanization rate, alongside a decrease in the share of persons aged under 15 years. This reflects ongoing internal migration from villages to cities, which occurs in parallel with international migration.

Macroeconomic context. As the number of persons leaving for work abroad increased, the amount of transfers from abroad from these individuals has also increased significantly, registering a huge influence on the main macroeconomic indicators. During the reference period, a fluctuation may be noted for the nominal value of the given indicator, as the growth rate in 2009 dropped by 6 per cent as compared to 2008. Starting in 2010, the GDP per capita has increased continuously, with a value of MDL 24,680 in 2012. This uptrend, however, as compared to the previous years, was interrupted by drops in some years.

For the population of the Republic of Moldova, remittances represent an important resource for escaping poverty. Data from the Household Budgets Survey (HBS) show that more than 22 per cent of households in the Republic of Moldova in 2012 benefited from remittances; in 2008 this figure registered its highest value, at 26.4 per cent. A higher share of households benefiting from remittances was registered in rural areas than urban areas, 29.5 per cent and 22.6 per cent, respectively. LFS/Labour Migration Survey data reveal that in 2012, a large majority of migrants (81.3%) stated that they transferred/sent money to their families. The transferred amounts varied: Over one third of migrants (35.8%) stated that they transferred/sent under USD 500 on a monthly basis; 12.4 per cent, between USD 500 and 800; and 7.2 per cent, more than USD 800. Less than one fifth of migrants (18.7%) stated that

they do not transfer/send money home. HBS data show that from 2007 to 2012, remittances accounted for over half of the disposable income of Moldovan households (the proportion depending on the amount received), with the highest value (56.9%) registered in 2012.

From 2007 to 2009, the share of the population below the absolute poverty line remained generally stable, averaging 26 per cent of the total country population. However, starting 2010 this indicator has been constantly dropping. In 2012 the share of the population below the absolute poverty line was 16.6 per cent, down 9 percentage points from 2007.

From 2007 to 2012, the economically active population decreased constantly from 1.314 million to 1.215 million, the difference being 99,000 persons (-7.5% change). Activity rate decreased by 4.1 percentage points during this period.

Official statistics reveal a slight downtrend in the working-age population (16 to 56 or 61 years old), from 66.57 per cent to 66.36 per cent, confirmed by a reduction in the growth rate of this segment from 99.78 per cent to 99.68 per cent. Foreigners of working age accounted for 92.4 per cent (18,661 persons) of the total number of foreigners staying in the country in 2012.

The indicators for labour force participation and employment dropped in 2012 from 2011. To be specific, labour force participation rate decreased by 2.7 percentage points, if calculated according to the national definition, and by 6.3 percentage points, if calculated according to the international definition. The unemployment rates decreased in 2012 from 2011, both among the general population, the youth and women.

The shortage of teaching staff continues to be one of the effects of the migration process in the Republic of Moldova. Hence, more than half of the interviewed teachers stated their intention to leave for work abroad; 40.3 per cent of respondents mentioned that they wanted to leave for temporary work abroad, while 7.9 per cent wanted to leave for good and 5.4 per cent wanted to leave for studies. In 2012 left-behind children with both parents abroad numbered 21,600 thousand children. The number of children with only one parent abroad was 83,600, of whom 29,900 had their mothers abroad and 53,700 had their fathers abroad. The gross enrolment rate in primary education in 2012 was 93.8 per cent, a drop of 0.2 percentage points as compared to 2007.

In 2012 the health protection system counted 10,570 doctors and 22,788 health workers with secondary education. The staffing rates with health professionals were 29.7 doctors and 64.0 health workers with secondary education per 10,000 population, which were under the average EU levels of 32.3 per 10,000 and 77.5 per 10,000, respectively.

Migration management framework. Over the last years, increasing awareness of migration as a phenomenon that produces positive results for the country's development and induces negative social costs, as well as the parallel commitment to pro-actively manage migration challenges and opportunities, has induced the Moldovan Government to undertake intensive activities in relation to legislation and policy development. A number of documents – concept papers and laws – were developed to determine the migration policy in the key areas of migration management and migration policy administration for the mid- and long

terms. The majority of them comply with international standards and *acquis communautaire*, taking European integration aspirations into consideration.

The Republic of Moldova has a well-developed institutional framework in the area of migration management, as well as migration policies developed with the participation of a number of institutional stakeholders. In 2012 the Bureau for Diaspora Relations was created under the State Chancellery, being subordinate to the Prime Minister of the Republic and responsible for coordinating diaspora policies and programmes at the national government and ministry levels on the one hand, and for developing a continuous dialogue with the Moldovan diaspora on the other. The Republic of Moldova also has a comprehensive coordination mechanism in the area of migration involving different levels: commissions, committees and working groups chaired by different stakeholders. In this respect, it is important to mention the re-launch (in November 2013) of the commission for the coordination of certain activities related to the migration process (under the Ministry of Internal Affairs).

The Republic of Moldova continues to benefit from solid foreign assistance: about 200 actions related to migration were implemented with foreign support from 2007 to 2012, a considerable number of which (85 out of the 200) were under the EU–Moldova Mobility Partnership.

Part A: Migration Trends

A.1. Background and main determining factors

Migration processes in the Republic of Moldova, were subject of deep analyses all over their evolution. Migration patterns and evolutionary stages have been widely described by researchers in the area. They point out four stages: the first, from 1990 to 1994; the second, from 1995 to 2000; the third, from 2001 to 2006; and the fourth, which started in May 2006 (IOM, 2012; IDIS, 2008). While each of these four periods is characterized by specific peculiarities, economic reasons and labour migration are core elements that serve as a common basis for the development of the migration phenomenon.

The fourth and current stage is characterized by considerable migration management efforts undertaken by the State. The concept-based approach, in particular, is promoted in relation to the regulation of labour migration, development of institutional reform and closer cooperation with the European Union. For purposes of streamlining the migration policies that were being promoted, the Bureau for Diaspora Relations (DRB) was created in 2012,¹⁰ and some additional competencies regarding the analysis of migration flows were delegated to the Bureau of Migration and Asylum.¹¹

Over the last years, especially during the economic crisis that occurred in Europe, the situation of returned migrants became a timely issue – returning of migrants became a rather emphasized phenomenon when the conditions for the stay and employment of migrants tightened in the Russian Federation. Moldovan authorities, with the support of international bodies, aimed to provide the necessary assistance to Moldovan citizens who intended to return home or those who had already gone back.

A.1.1. Push and pull factors of migration

The studies carried out in the area of migration reveals that the main push factor for Moldovan migrants remains to be economic reasons, especially the lack of employment opportunities and the small salaries offered by the local labour market.¹²

A.2. Current migration patterns

Available data and sources of information. The exercise of developing the first Extended Migration Profile (EMP) Report – which is a multilateral analysis of the migration phenomenon – involved an assessment of existing data in the country (IOM, 2011); the identification of relevant migration indicators and data sources; the development and approval of a list of EMP indicators (which allowed a description of the complex situation);

¹⁰ Government Decision No. 780, dated 19 October 2012, on the amendment and completion of Government decisions. Available from <http://lex.justice.md/md/345122>.

¹¹ Government Decision No. 1009, dated 26 December 2011, on the Action Plan for 2011–2015 to Implement the National Strategy on Migration and Asylum (2011–2020).

¹² The “Labour Force Migration” ad hoc module, carried out during the 2012 Fourth Quarter Labour Force Survey (National Bureau of Statistics), reports that 76.5 per cent of migrants indicated as their main reason for leaving abroad the small salaries in the Republic of Moldova; 8.8 per cent, the lack of jobs according to their skills and qualifications (www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=350&id=2570).

and the identification and evaluation of the negative and positive effects of migration on the country's socioeconomic situation.

The necessary actions were identified, along with the authorities responsible for the continuous production of data and the development of the EMP reports – all of these being stipulated in the Action Plan for 2011 to 2015 for the Implementation of the National Strategy on Migration and Asylum (2011–2020) (RM, 2011). The respective central authorities and subordinate institutions have produced and delivered to the Bureau of Migration and Asylum (BMA) several series of data in line with the list of indicators approved for 2011 to 2012. The report also analyses additional data series from research and surveys carried out during the reference period.

The tables, which list the data used to develop the analysis on migration profile, are included in Annex 2 of this report.

A.2.1. Flow of international migration of Moldovan citizens and stock of Moldovan citizens living abroad

The migration phenomenon in the Republic of Moldova continues to be characterized by the emigration of Moldovan citizens and less by the immigration of persons from abroad.

Three approaches are generally used in the Republic of Moldova to estimate international emigration, namely:

- (a) Authorized emigration, which involves deregistration from the place of residence and declaration of long-term emigration or emigration for good, also known in the country as “permanent emigration”;
- (b) Labour migration, that is, leaving to work or to look for a job abroad, with the intention to return, also termed “temporary/circular migration”;
- (c) Exit from the country, which is registered at the border, including, de facto, both authorized/permanent emigration and temporary/circular migration.

There are different data and sources of information for estimating emigration. The most relevant data for monitoring migration and its impact in different areas are presented and analysed in this report. The respective data were collected and estimated based on the legislative–normative framework in force at the time this report was developed.

It should be noted that because an important share of the population has double citizenship, the analysis of emigration in this report is focused on data on the country's population and disregards the citizenship that persons had at the time, or which was declared by those going through the migration processes;¹³ as such, the term “Moldovan citizens” in this context refers to the entire population of the country, unless an alternate definition is provided.

¹³ The first EMP Report 2012 included data on all emigrations from the Republic of Moldova, regardless of the citizenship declared when emigrating, as well as separate data about persons who emigrated as citizens of the Republic of Moldova.

Emigration of citizens

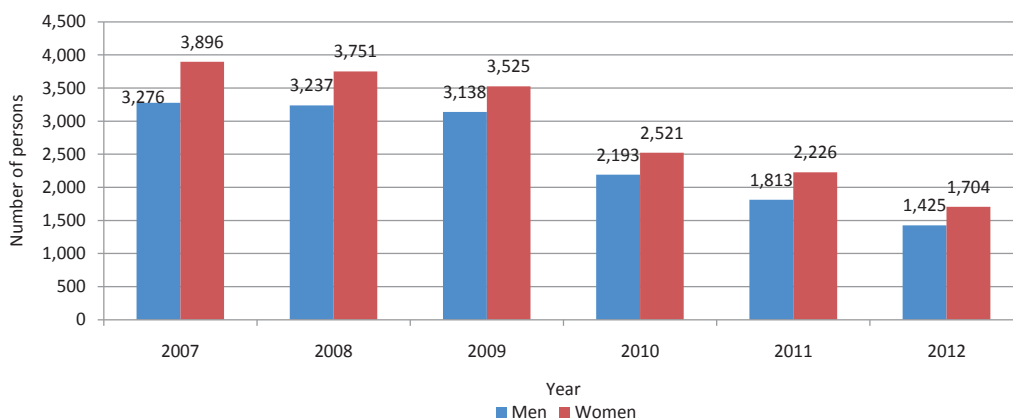
The analysis of emigration from the Republic of Moldova in this chapter is focused mainly on available data regarding the annual flows of those who have left the country from administrative sources. Only in some cases are data related to cumulative stocks on the reporting date presented for comparison.

Annual flow of international authorized emigration.¹⁴ Although authorized emigration out of the country, estimated based on the data provided by the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications (MITC), from the SE SIRC “Registru” (or the State Enterprise Centre for State Information Resources Registry), continues to be a timely issue in the Republic of Moldova, the phenomenon is registering a downtrend. According to official data, 7,172 persons emigrated in 2007, with the number decreasing by 43 per cent in 2012 to 3,129 persons (Table 1a).

It is mainly the urban population that emigrates: In 2012 more than double the number of persons from urban (2,152 persons) as from rural areas (977 persons) emigrated (Table 1a). The relative share of international emigrants from rural versus urban areas registered a constant increase from 2007 until 2009; afterwards the given indicator constantly decreased and was down to 45.4 per cent in 2012 (Table 2).

According to data on annual flows of authorized emigration, more women than men emigrated over the last six years. More specifically, the number of women exceeded by almost 20 per cent the number of men during this period (Figure 1). The highest number of emigrations – 7,172 persons (3,276 men and 3,896 women) – was registered in 2007, but afterwards the numbers of both emigrant men and emigrant women continuously decreased, to 4,039 persons (1,813 men and 2,226 women) in 2011 and 3,129 persons (1,425 men and 1,704 women) in 2012. It should be mentioned that total (men and women) authorized emigration flow was down 56 per cent in 2012 from 2007.

Figure 1. Sex distribution of Moldovan authorized emigrants, 2007–2012, number of persons



Source: Ministry of Information Technology and Communications (MITC)/State Enterprise Centre for State Information Resources (SE SIRC “Registru”).

¹⁴ The first EMP Report 2012 used the term “permanent emigration” for this group within the population, while this report has replaced this term with “authorized emigration”.

Data on the annual flow of authorized emigrations reveal that it is mainly young persons who are emigrating. The largest share of the total number of authorized emigrations in 2012 – 3,129 persons – is registered for the population aged 25 to 29 and 30 to 34 years old (about 9.7% each), followed by the population aged 35 to 39 years old (8.5%) and 20 to 24 years old (8.1%). These four age groups (i.e. 20-to-39-year-old range) accounted for a combined share of 35.8 per cent of all authorized emigrations in 2012. Closer to the retirement age (age group: 65–69 years old), the number of persons leaving the country to settle down permanently abroad is reduced by half (Table 1a).

About two thirds of emigrants had at least specialized secondary education and over 45 per cent had some higher education or university studies. A larger share of women who had emigrated had higher levels of education as compared to men (Figure 2 and Table 3).

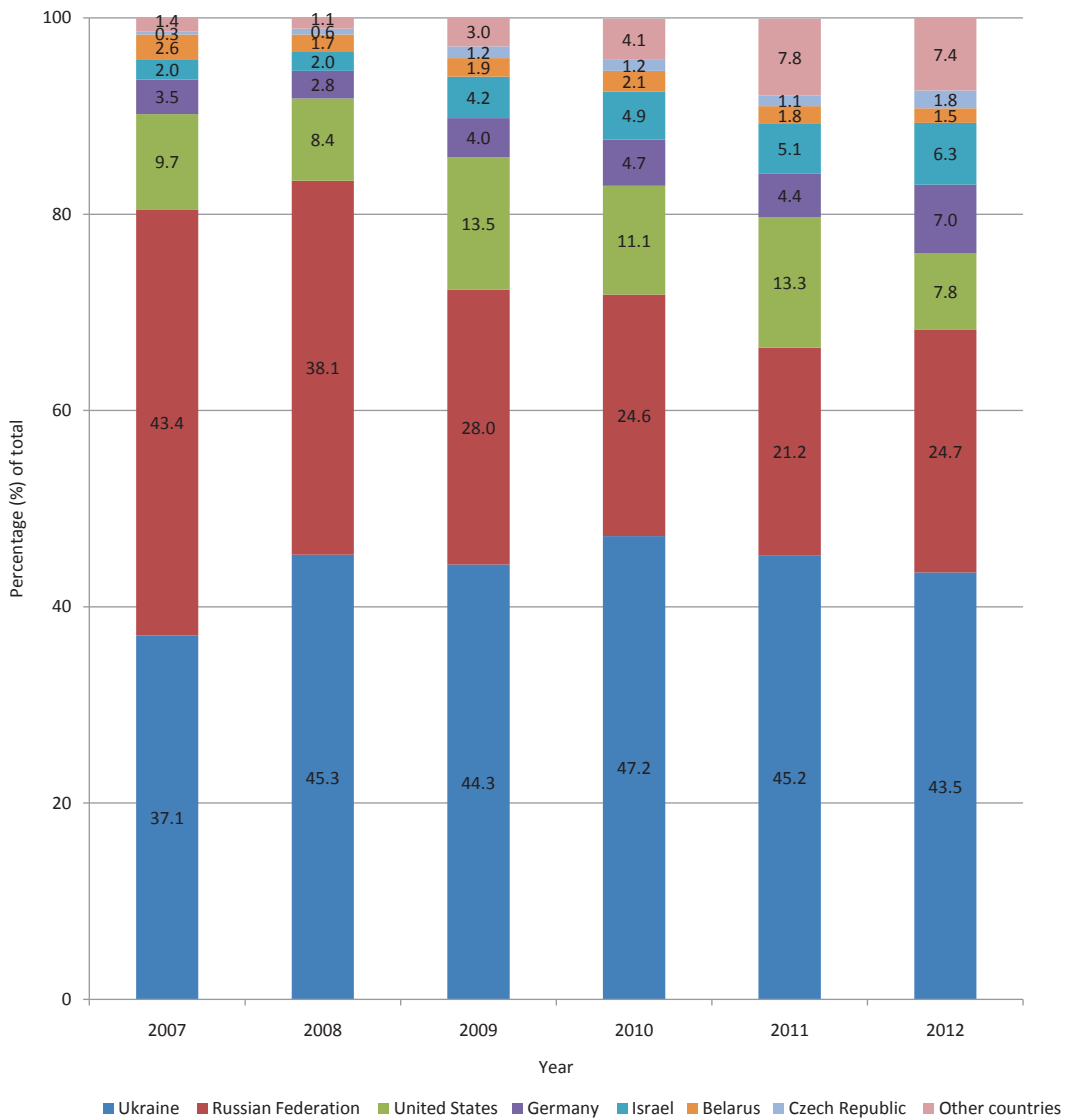
Figure 2. Distribution of the Moldovan emigrant population by level of education and sex, 2007–2012, in per cent



Source: MITC/SE SIRC "Registru".

The analysis of the data regarding authorized emigrants' countries of destination reveals that in 2012, the Russian Federation and Ukraine continue to receive the largest share (almost 70%) of authorized emigrations, a decrease from the over-80-per-cent-share in 2007. Ukraine continued to be on top in 2012, with 43.5 per cent, followed by the Russian Federation, with 24.7 per cent; the United States of American is in third place, with 7.8 per cent. It may be noted that there were uptrend for emigration to Germany (7% in 2012, as compared to 3.5% in 2007) and Israel (6.3% in 2012, as compared to 2% in 2007) (Figure 3).

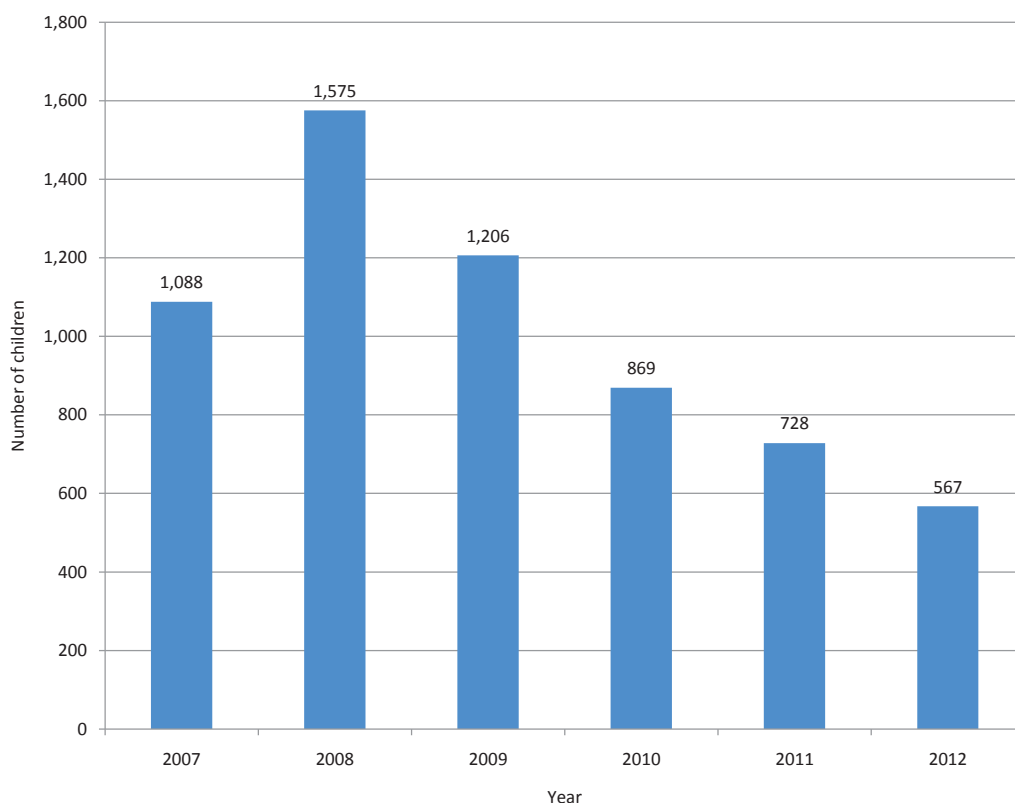
Figure 3. Distribution of the Moldovan emigrant population by country of destination, 2007–2012, in per cent



Source: MITC/SE SIRC "Registru".

Authorized emigration of children. Beginning 2008, the annual flow of children's emigration has been registering a stable drop, decreasing by 22 per cent from 2011 to 2012 (Figure 4), when children who went abroad with their parents numbered 567, as compared to 1,088 persons in 2007. (It should be mentioned that these data reflect the annual flow of children under 18 years old who emigrated with their parents to settle down abroad permanently during the reference year.)

Figure 4. Number of children taken abroad by their parents, 2007–2012



Source: MITC/SE SIRC "Registru".

Stock of Moldovan citizens living abroad

There are several data sources that can be used as bases for estimating the stock of Moldovan citizens living abroad, namely:

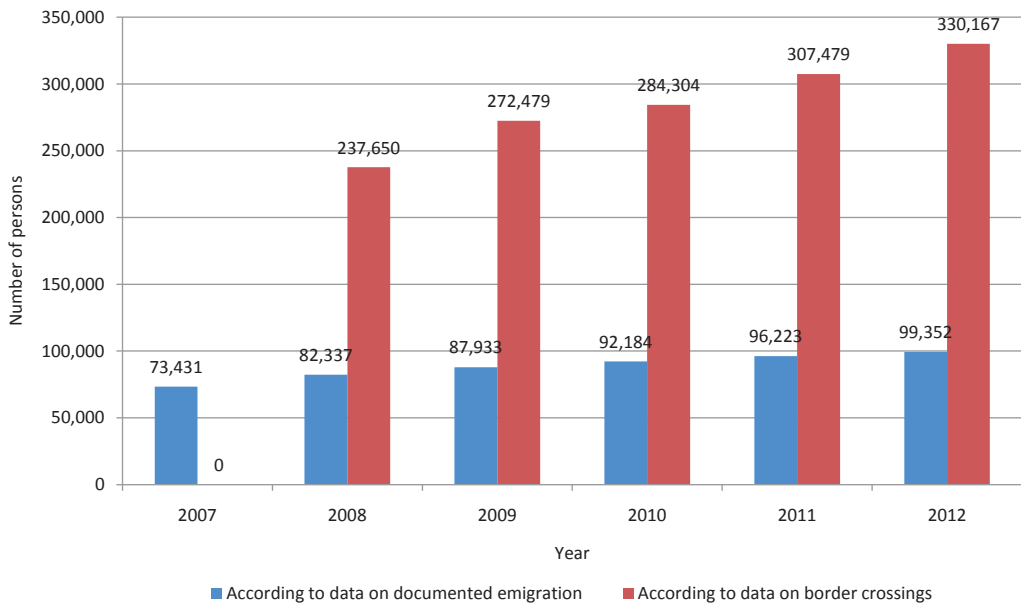
- (a) The stock of the total number of Moldovan citizens who have "documented/authorized emigration";
- (b) The number of persons who have exited the country and are registered as being absent for one year or longer;
- (c) The number of Moldovan citizens living abroad, as reported by host countries and based on data extracted from the EUROSTAT database. It should be noted that the census of the population is considered to be one of the safest data sources regarding the stock of emigrants, although the most recent census was carried out back in 2004, and the next exercise is planned for 2014 (ten years later).

Number of Moldovan citizens living abroad. According to estimates of authorized emigration (from the MITC), the number of Moldovan citizens living abroad continued to increase, by almost 26,000, from 2007 to 2012 (Table 5 and Figure 5), when the number

stood at 99,352. Other estimates of the stock of Moldovan citizens who may be considered emigrants, in line with the international definition,¹⁵ reveal an underestimation of the total number of emigrants.

Important data source that allow for the estimation of the volume of emigration according to the international definition are those provided by the BPD, namely, data about the length of time that a person has stayed abroad, based on registered State border crossings. According to the BPD, 330,167 persons had been staying outside the country for more than 12 months by the end of 2012 – this number corresponds to an increase by 92,517 persons (38.9%) from 2008 and by 22,688 persons (7.4%) from 2011 (Table 5 and Figure 5).

Figure 5. Number of Moldovan citizens living abroad, 2007–2012

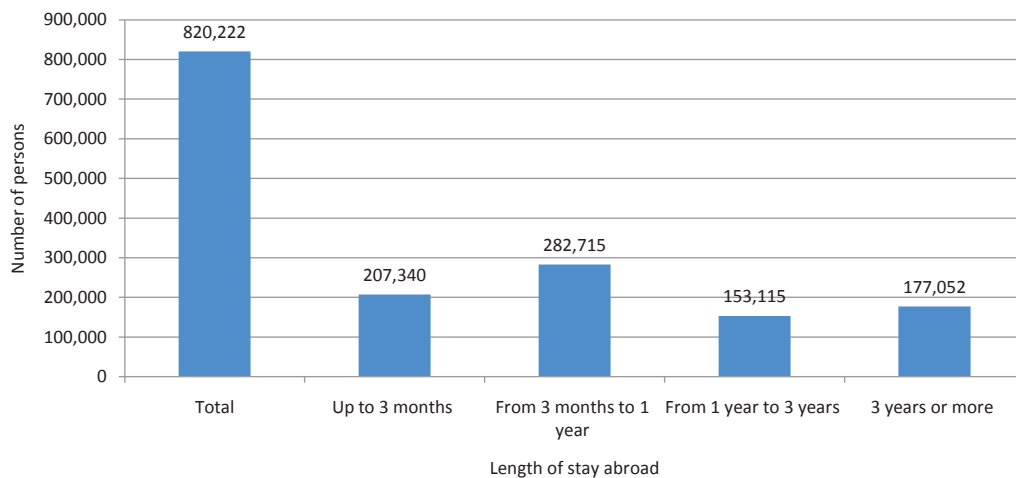


Source: MITC/SE SIRC “Registru” and Border Police Department (BPD).

It should be mentioned that data from both sources (the MITC and the BPD) show a similar uptrend (Figure 5) over time for the number of persons living abroad, but the actual value of the increase differs between the two. Data on authorized emigrations show that emigration trends during the reference period, as noted above, registered a rather reduced pace as compared to previous years (Table 1b). Stays abroad of more than 12 months registered at border crossings contributed to the uptrend, resulting in an annual numeric increase. According to border crossing data, the number of Moldovan citizens who had left the country (with various durations of stay abroad) by the end of 2012 was 820,222 persons, of which 384,169 were men and 436,053 were women.

¹⁵ An emigrant is considered to be a person absent from the country for 12 months or more.

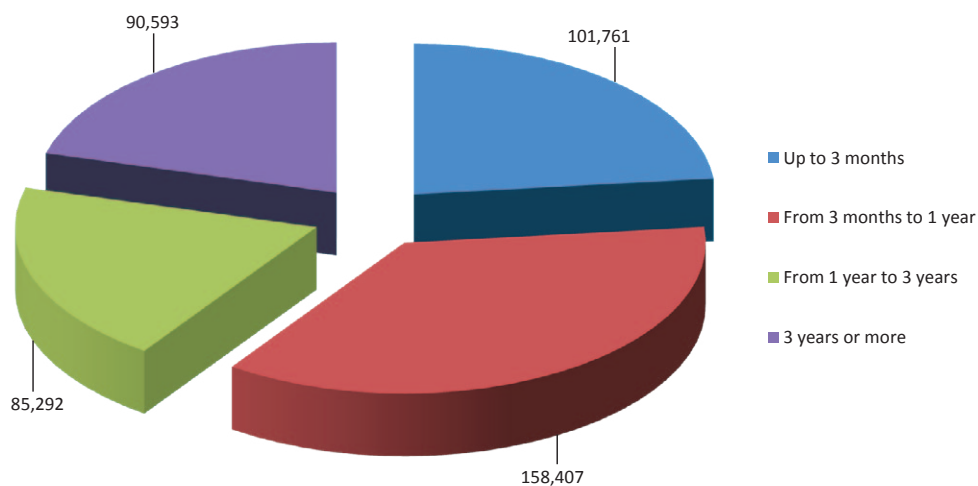
Figure 6. Distribution of the Moldovan emigrant population by duration of stay abroad as of 31 December 2012

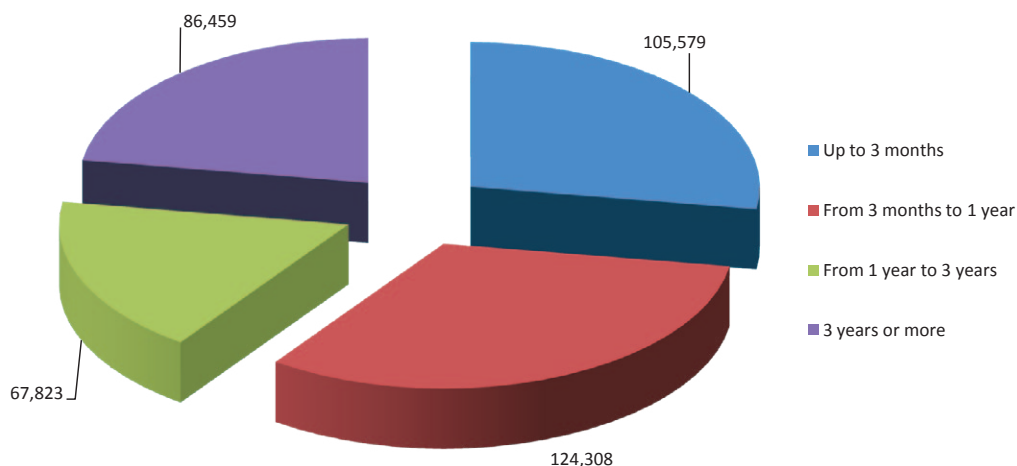


Source: BPD (Information presented is based on data accumulated at border crossing points, controlled by Moldovan authorities).

The distribution of emigrants according to duration of stay abroad is presented in Figure 7.

Figure 7. Distribution of the Moldovan emigrant population by sex and duration of stay abroad as of 31 December 2012





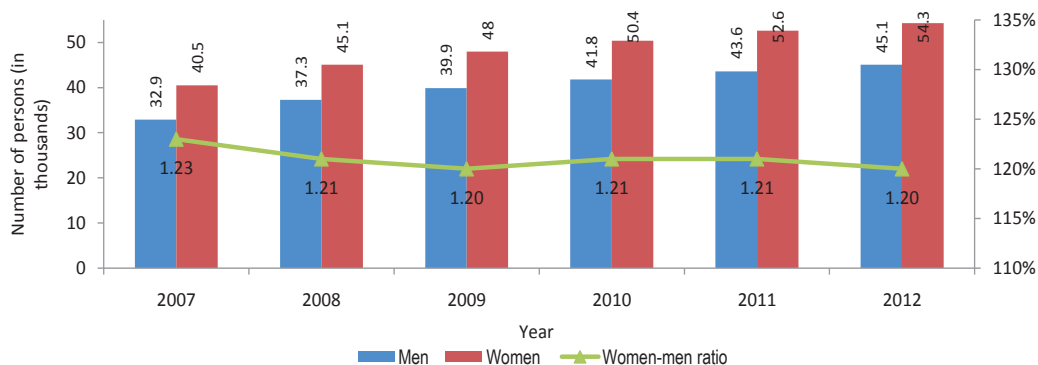
Source: BPD.

Given that BPD data only reflects border crossings accumulated at the State border crossings points controlled by official authorities of the Republic of Moldova, the full volume of emigration from the Republic of Moldova cannot be estimated. With this data there is, therefore, either an overestimation or underestimation of emigration, due to the fact that persons can also cross the border through the Transnistrian segment.

BPD data shows that 34,800 more persons had been abroad for more than 12 months in 2009 than in 2008; the number was higher by 22,700 persons in 2012 than in 2011 (Table 5).

The analysis of the data from both sources reveals that women compose a larger proportion of all Moldovan citizens living abroad (Figure 8 and Table 6). In the case of authorized emigration, the woman-to-man ratio constantly evolved from 2008 to 2012, with women exceeding the number of men living abroad by almost 20 per cent.

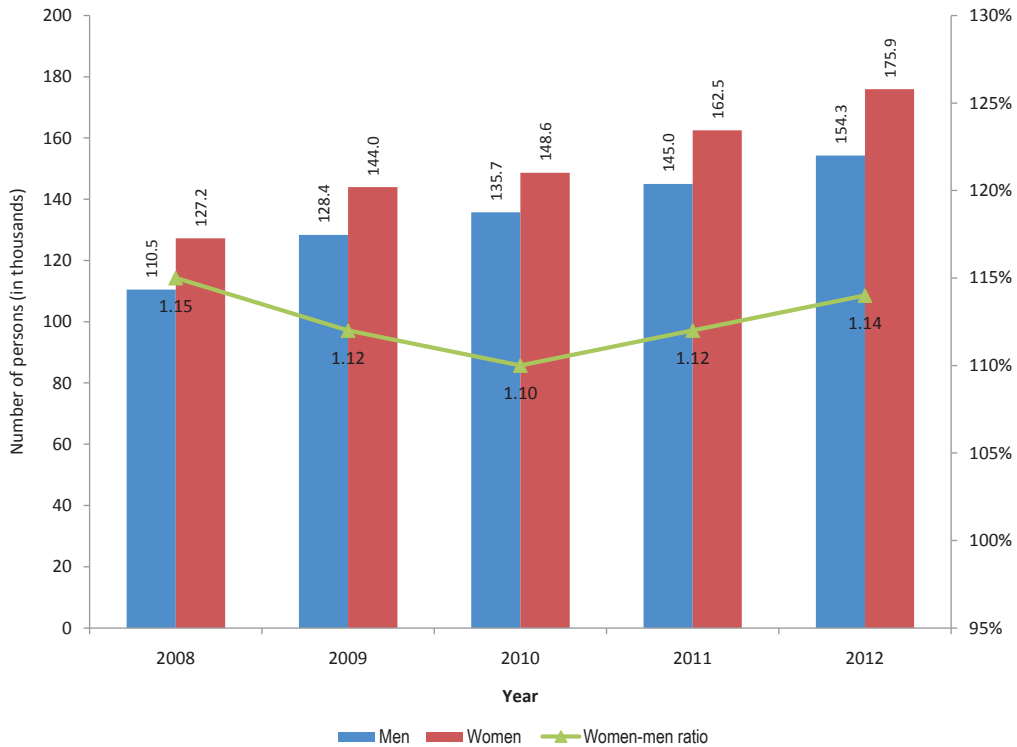
Figure 8. Sex distribution of Moldovan authorized emigrants, 2007–2012



Source: MITC/SE SIRC "Registru".

The evolution of the leaves from the Republic of Moldova for a period longer than 12 months (based on BPD data) followed the same uptrend, but the woman-to-man ratio was smaller. During the 2008–2012 period, the ratio varied between 1.1 and 1.14, with the uptrend starting in 2011 (Figure 9 and Table 7).

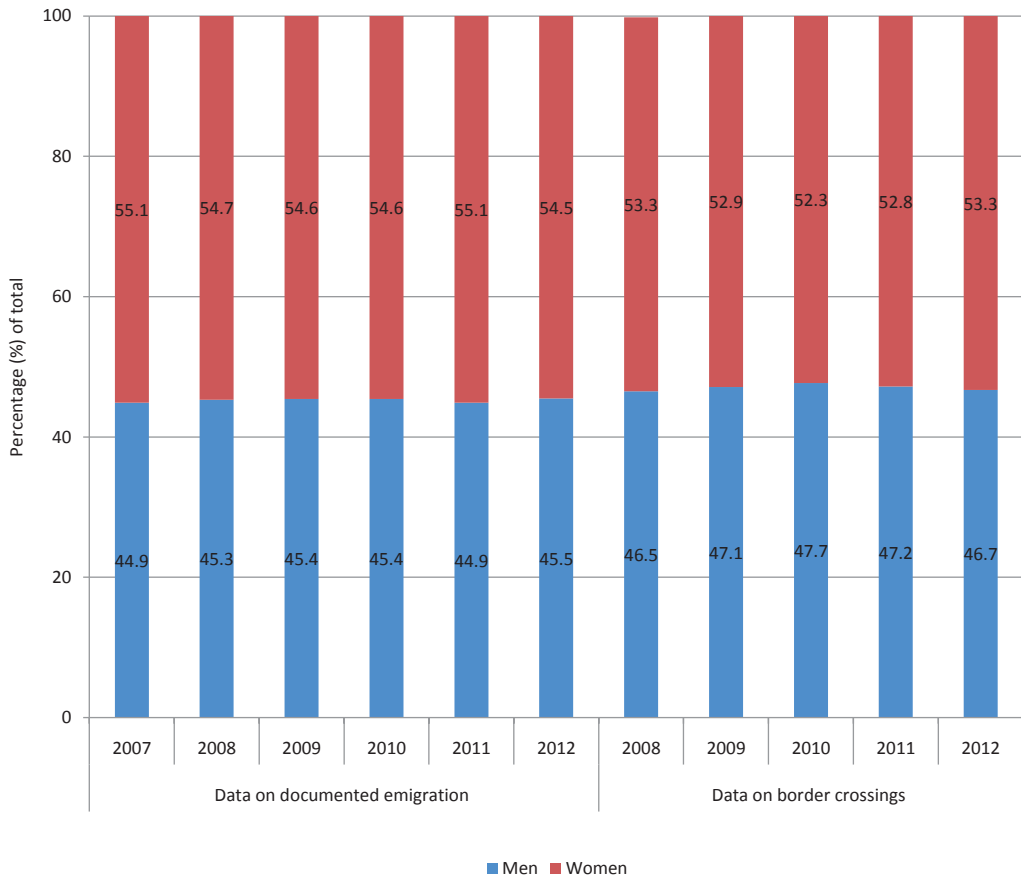
Figure 9. Number of Moldovan citizens registered at the border as being abroad for more than 12 months, by sex, during 2008–2012, in thousand persons



Source: BPD.

According to data presented by the State Register of Population (Figure 10), women accounted for almost 55 per cent of authorized emigrants from 2007 to 2012. In the case of border crossing data, women accounted for almost 53 per cent of the total number of Moldovan citizens living abroad for more than one year. It should be noted that the emigrants’ sex distribution remained generally constant during the reference period.

Figure 10. The structure by sex of the Moldovan citizens living abroad, 2007–2012, in per cent



Source: MITC/SE SIRC "Registru" and BPD.

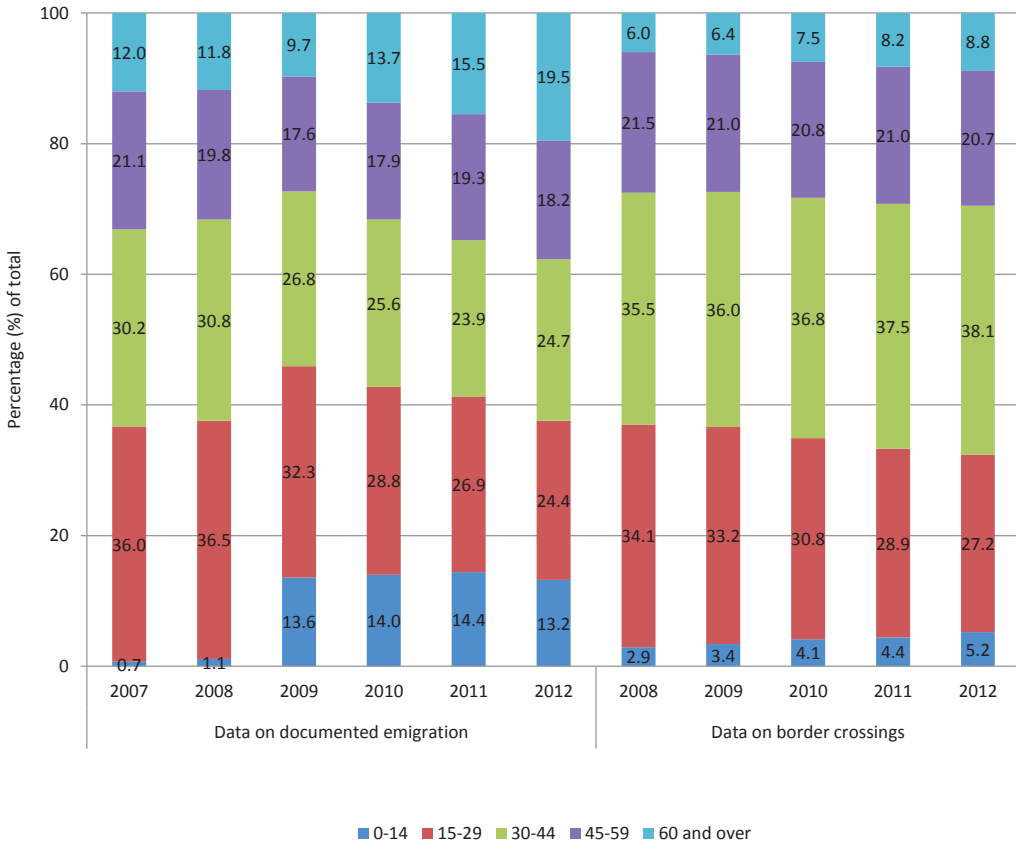
Two age groups constituted the largest share of the total number of authorized emigrants during the reference period (Figure 11). In 2012 persons aged 30 to 44 years old accounted for 24.7 per cent of the total number of Moldovan citizens living abroad, followed by the group aged 15 to 29 years old, who account for 24.4 per cent. These two age groups cumulated about 49 per cent of all authorized emigrations in 2012. From 2010 to 2012, however, the shares of these groups registered a downtrend.¹⁶

The age distribution of persons who had been away from the country for more than 12 months by the end of 2012, as registered at border crossings, reveals that the two abovementioned age groups always registered the highest shares, with more pronounced quanta for the 30-to-44-year-olds. It is noted that for the entire reference period, according to border crossing data, the share of persons included in the 15–29 and 30–44 age groups annually cumulated about 65 per cent of the total number of persons who had been abroad for 12 months or more. It is also important to point out the evolution of the 45–59 age

¹⁶ No comparison can be made with the previous years in case of authorized emigration, because data before 2008 did not include the number of children emigrating with their parents.

group, which was rather representative and annually accounted for about 21 per cent of all emigrants. These data confirm the assumption that persons of working age are the ones leaving the country. A slight uptrend is also noted for children living abroad: According to border crossing data, an increase in their share of the total number of emigrants was registered, from 2.9 per cent in 2008 to 5.2 per cent in 2012 (Figure 11).

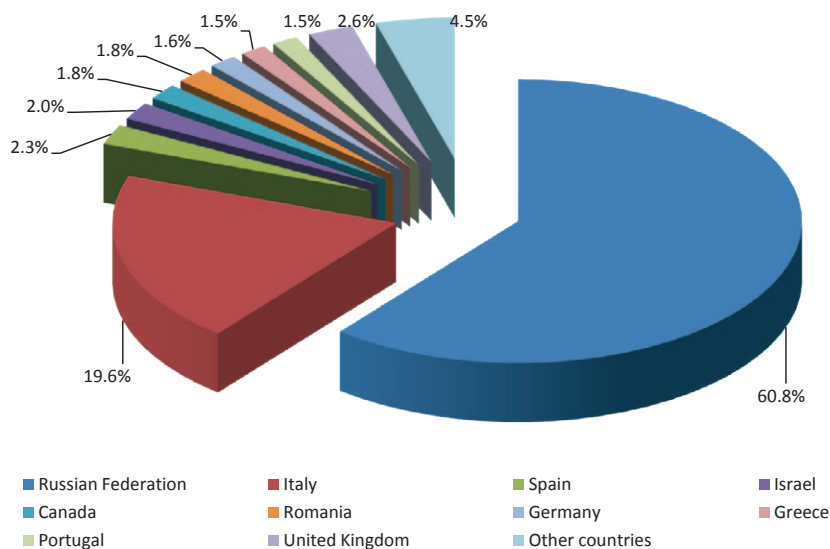
Figure 11. The structure of the number of Moldovan citizens living abroad by wider age group, during 2007–2012, in per cent



Source: MITC/SE SIRC “Registru” and BPD.

Another source of data which can be used to estimate the volume of emigration is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI), which obtains such data from Moldovan diplomatic missions and consular offices. According to these data, the estimated number of Moldovan citizens living abroad by the end of 2012, regardless of the duration of stay in the host country, was about 756,000 (Table 8). Analysis of host country distribution reveals that about 80 per cent of all Moldovan citizens living abroad are cumulated by the Russian Federation and Italy (Figure 12).

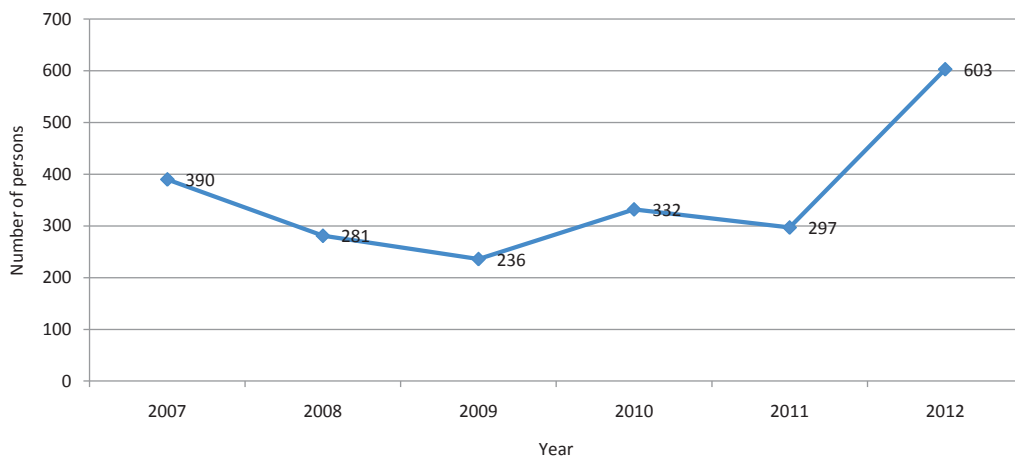
Figure 12. Distribution of the estimated number of Moldovan citizens living abroad by host country by the end of 2012, in per cent



Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI) (data from diplomatic and consular missions of the Republic of Moldova in host countries).

According to data presented by the National Employment Agency (NEA), a rather small number of persons work in host counties with work contracts concluded via the agency. It should be mentioned that the figure for 2012 is double that of most of the previous years (Figure 13 and Table 9). The figures are very likely to be underestimates because there is no information on contract-based employment in the host countries where Moldovans are looking for jobs.

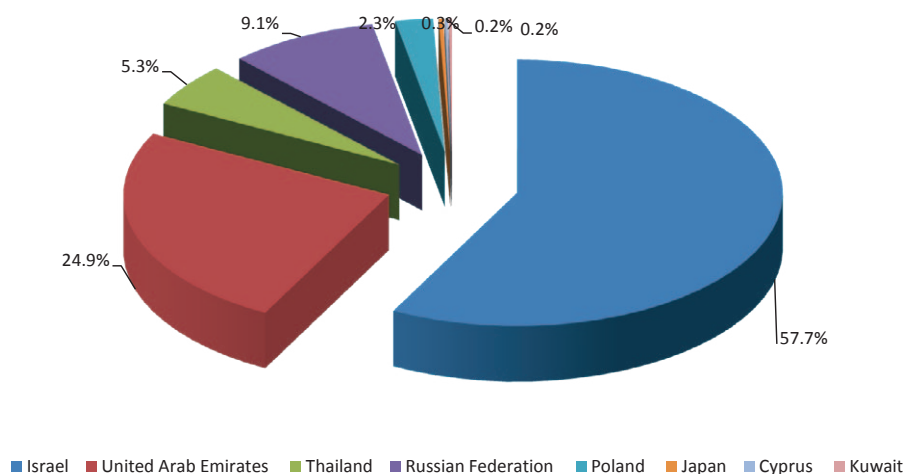
Figure 13. Number of Moldovan citizens working abroad under legal work contracts, 2007–2012



Source: National Employment Agency (NEA) of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF).

The distribution by country of employment under a legal work contract shows that the largest share of emigrants is registered for Israel (57.7%), followed by the United Arab Emirates (24.9%) and the Russian Federation (9.1%) (Figure 14 and Table 10).

Figure 14. Number of Moldovan citizens working abroad under legal work contracts, by host country, 2012, in per cent



Source: MLSPF (NEA).

Emigration for studies

There was an observed increase in the number of Moldovan citizens studying abroad under international education agreements during the reference period. These students numbered 5,356 in 2012 and 4,270 in 2011, which are 2.2 times and 1.8 times, respectively, the number in 2007 (Table 11).

In 2012 about 93 per cent of Moldovan citizens studying abroad were in Romania, 2.5 per cent in Bulgaria, 2.0 per cent in Ukraine and 1.8 per cent in the Russian Federation.

Involuntary emigration

Involuntary emigration registered a significant decrease from 2007 to 2012, based on data from international databases. According to these data, 909 Moldovans sought asylum abroad in 2007; the number dropped gradually and was down to 460 in 2011 and 441 in 2012 (Table 12).

At the same time, it may be noted that during the reference period, the total number of asylum-seekers from the Republic of Moldova who have obtained refugee status abroad increased by 25 per cent by the end of 2012 to 6,148, from 4,918 persons in 2007.

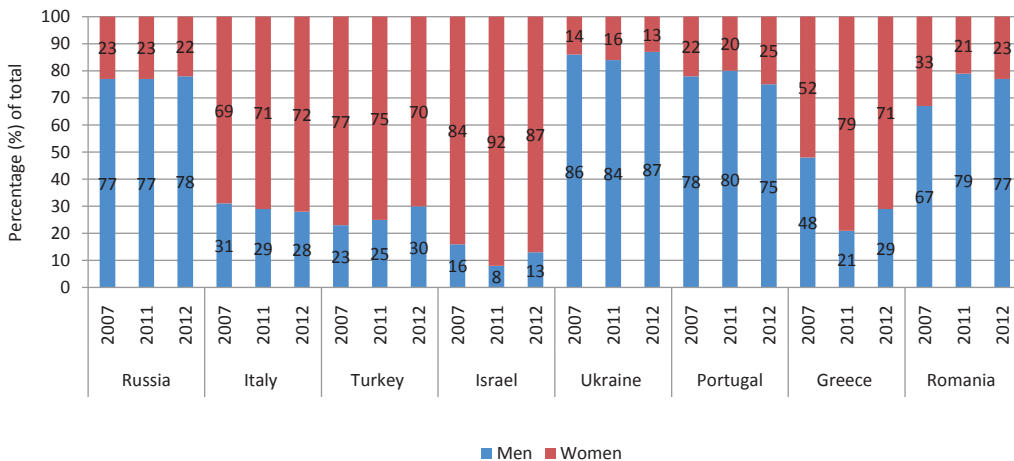
It should be mentioned that the increase rates for the number of Moldovans registered as asylum-seekers abroad and for the number of Moldovans registered and recognized as refugees abroad is decreasing (Table 12).

Temporary migration

Labour migration has been persistent in the Republic of Moldova for two decades. Data from the LFS,¹⁷ which is carried out on a quarterly basis by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), shows an approximately stable number of persons (about 300,000) who had been working outside the country for a certain period between 2007 and 2012. Based on LFS data, the NBS estimates the volume of labour migration as the number of persons aged 15 years and over who have gone abroad to work or look for a job at the time the survey was carried out. According to LFS estimates, the top receiving countries of Moldovan emigrants were the Russian Federation, Italy, Israel, Turkey, Ukraine, Portugal, Romania and Greece (Table 13).

In 2012 the number of people staying abroad increased to 328,300, of whom 218,600 were men and 109,700 were women. The number in 2011 was 316,900, of which 204,400 were men and 112,500 were women. The sex distribution shows significant discrepancies as regards the country of destination, with men mainly leaving for the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Portugal and Romania, and women leaving for Italy, Turkey, Greece and Israel (Figure 15).

Figure 15. Distribution of persons aged 15 years and over who are working or looking for a job abroad, by country of destination and sex, 2007, 2011 and 2012

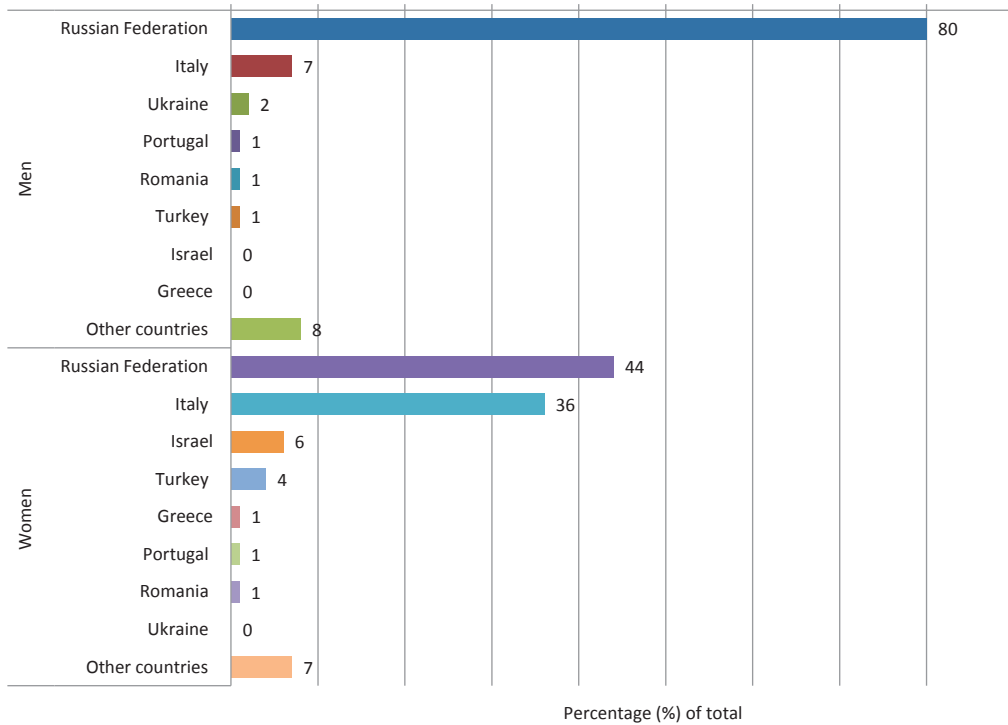


Source: National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), based on labour Force Survey (LFS) 2012 data.

Men who left for the Russian Federation accounted for 80 per cent; Italy, 7 per cent; and Ukraine, 2 per cent of all men who left the Republic of Moldova for work in 2012. In the same year, out of the total number of women migrating to work abroad, 44 per cent left for the Russian Federation, 36 per cent for Italy, 6 per cent for Israel and 4 per cent for Turkey. Other countries each received about 1 per cent or less of labour migrants of each sex (Figure 16).

¹⁷ The Labour Force Survey is a continuous household survey organized by the NBS since 1998. Starting 2006 it has been carried out based on a new sample of households and according to a methodology adjusted to the most recent recommendations of the ILO, European standards and the Labour Code of the Republic of Moldova. The target population of the survey are persons from selected households, and data on variables regarding the labour market are collected only for persons aged 15 years old and over. Available at: www.statistica.md/publicatii.

Figure 16. Distribution of persons aged 15 years old and over who are working or looking for a job abroad, by sex and country of destination, 2012, in per cent



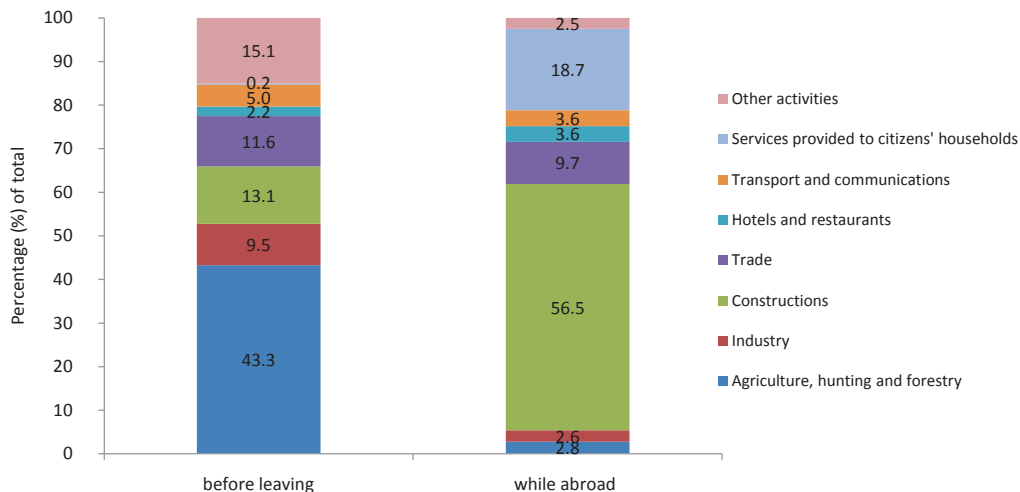
Source: NBS, estimates based on LFS 2012 data.

It should be mentioned that starting 2009, the sex distribution of Moldovans working abroad reflected the continuous trends of labour migration force masculinization: In 2012 the distribution was 67 per cent men versus 33 per cent women, as compared to 63 per cent men versus 37 per cent women in 2009 (Table 13).

About 73 per cent of persons who were abroad in 2012 came from rural areas. This was an increase from previous years; in 2007 this share accounted for 69 per cent (Table 14). Surveys in the area of labour migration¹⁸ confirm that it was mainly persons in agriculture (which is mostly in rural areas) who were leaving the Republic of Moldova. The distribution of migrants by economic activity prior to leaving the country reveals that 43.3 per cent were working in agriculture, hunting and forestry; 13.1 per cent in construction; and 11.6 per cent in trade. It should be mentioned that more than half of all migrants (56.5%) had worked or were currently working abroad in construction. Among the most widespread economic activities abroad were domestic services to private households (18.7%) and trade (9.7%) (Figure 17).

¹⁸ These refer to surveys conducted using the “Labour Force Migration”, ad hoc module, during the 2012 Fourth Quarter Labour Force Surveys (National Bureau of Statistics). The labour force migration report is available from www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=350&id=2570.

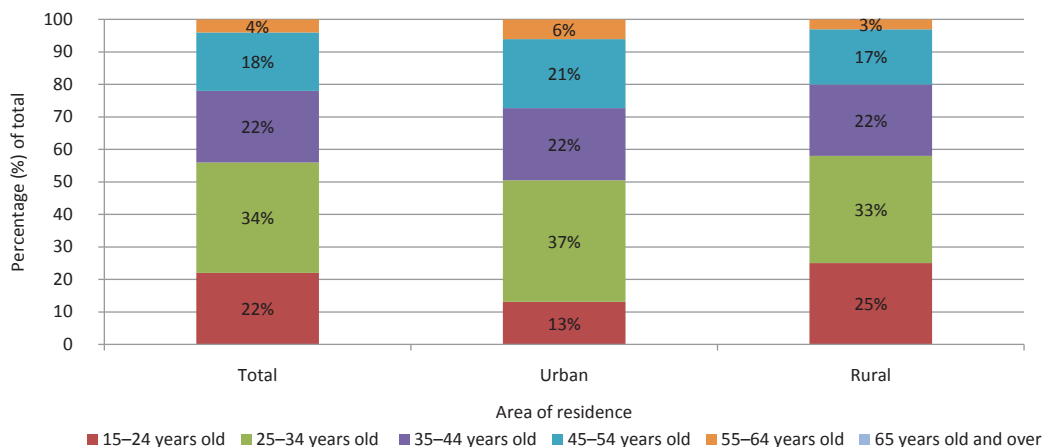
Figure 17. Distribution of migrants by economic activity prior to leaving the country and during their stay abroad, in per cent



Source: NBS, based on LFS 2012 data.

The distribution of migrants by wider age group in 2012 were as follows: 78 per cent were persons aged 15 to 44 years old, of whom 34 per cent were aged 25 to 34 years old, followed by the 35–44 and 15–24 age groups, each accounting for 22 per cent. Migrants aged 45 to 54 years old had a share of 18.1 per cent and those aged 55 years old and over, 4.0 per cent. It is noted that mainly young people leave from rural areas: The 15–34 age group accounts for 58 per cent of all emigrants from rural areas, as compared to 49 per cent for the same age group in urban areas (Figure 18 and Table 14).

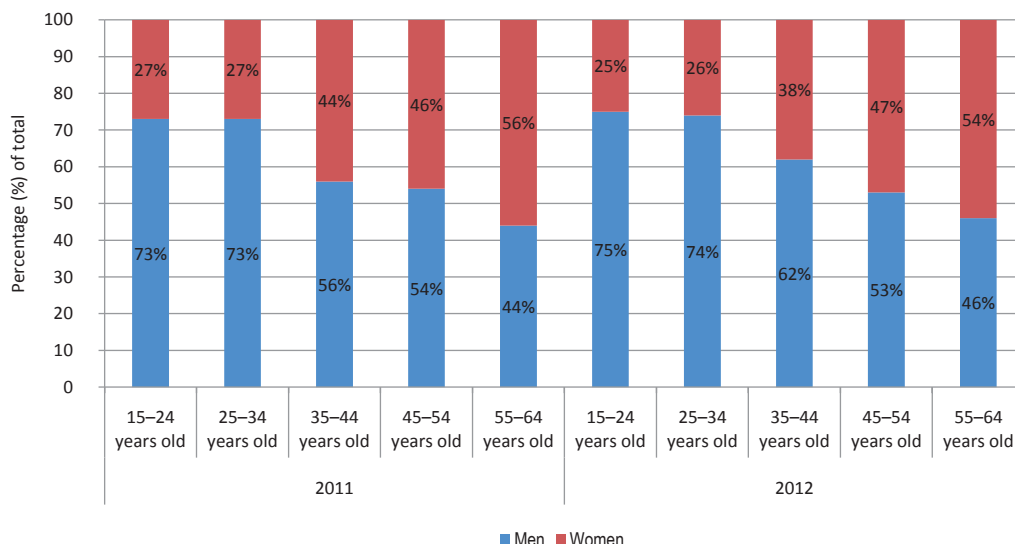
Figure 18. Distribution of persons aged 15 years old and over who are working or looking for a job abroad, by area of residence in the Republic of Moldova and age group, 2012, in per cent



Source: NBS, based on LFS 2012 data.

Significant disparities between the sexes are observed within migrants' age groups: The younger the group is, the larger the share of men, with the gap getting smaller with older age groups. In 2012 men accounted for 75 per cent of the 15–24 age group and for 53 per cent of the 45–54 age group – a difference of 22 percentage points (Figure 19 and Table 15).

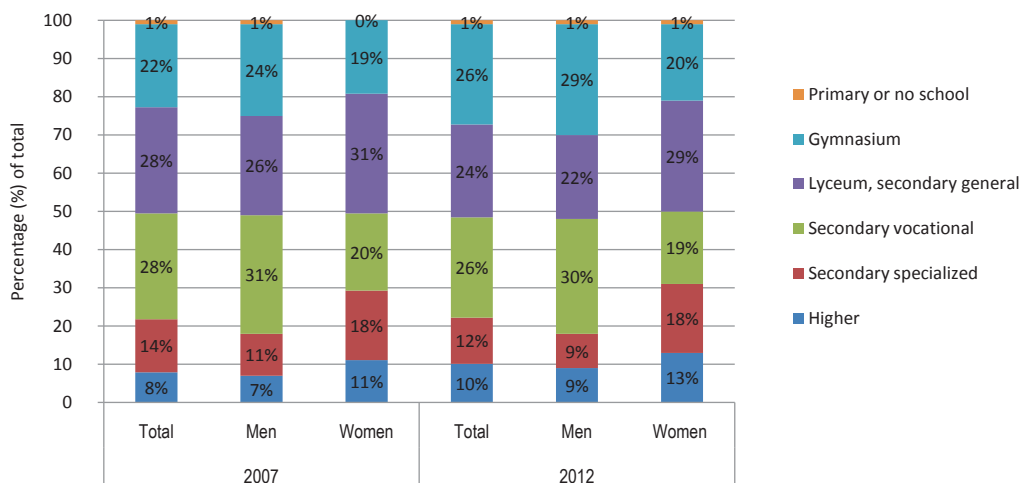
Figure 19. Gender gap in the structure of temporary migrants by age groups, 2011 and 2012



Source: NBS, based on LFS 2012 data.

Statistical data show that level of education, which influences the capacity to get integrated into the labour market abroad, plays a significant role in setting the migration flow. In 2012 over 50 per cent of the total number of migrants had secondary education (lyceum, gymnasium, etc.), followed by those with vocational and specialized secondary education (38.6 per cent). Persons with higher education accounted for 10.4 per cent of the total number of migrants. It is important to mention that the share of persons with higher education is increasing for both women and men (Figure 20 and Table 16).

Figure 20. Distribution of persons aged 15 years old and over who are working or looking for a job abroad, by level of education and sex, during 2007 and 2012, per cent

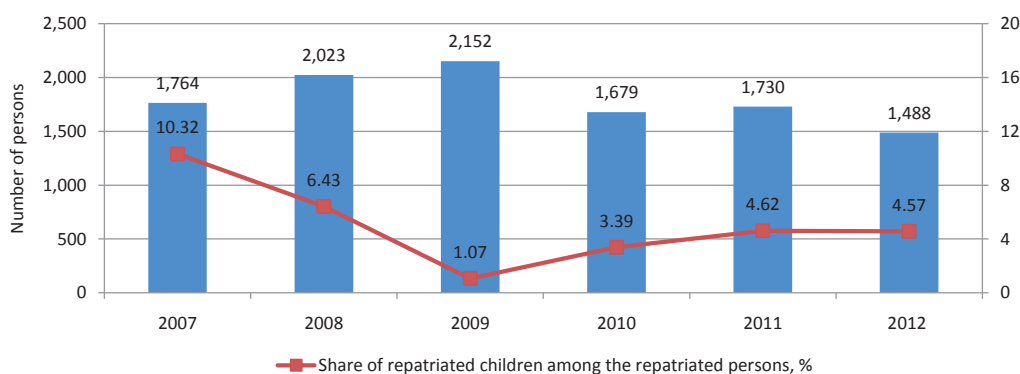


Source: NBS, based on LFS 2012 data.

Repatriation¹⁹

The annual number of repatriated persons increased during the 2007–2009 period. Hence, the year-on-year growth rate over these years was between 6 and 18 per cent (Table 19). The number of repatriated persons decreased in 2010 (compared to 2009) and 2011 (compared to 2010). There were 1,488 repatriated persons in 2012, registering a negative growth rate of -14.0 per cent from 2011. A certain number of children were registered among repatriated persons; their share of the total number of repatriated persons in 2012 was 4.6 per cent (Figure 21).

Figure 21. Number of persons repatriated to the Republic of Moldova, 2007–2012



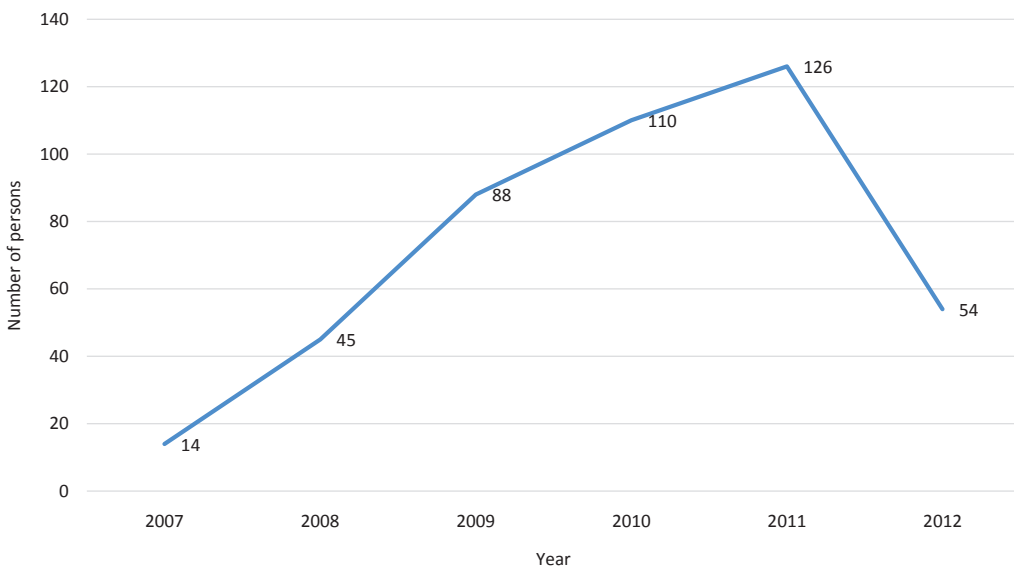
Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) – Bureau of Migration and Asylum (BMA) and MITC/SE SIRC “Registru”.

¹⁹ According to Law No. 200 on foreigners’ regime in RM, dated 16 July 2010, repatriation is defined as “voluntary return to the home country of persons born in the Republic of Moldova and their descendants, according to the law.”

Readmission

An important element of migration management is an efficient system for readmission. The readmission of Moldovan citizens returning from EU countries is carried out in line with the provisions set in the agreement between the European community and the Republic of Moldova on the readmission of persons residing without authorization, as well as in the readmission agreements signed with other countries of destination of Moldovan migrants, which have contributed to making the activities in this area more efficient.²⁰ During the reference period, the number of readmitted persons increased continuously, and in 2011 the figure was 9 times that in 2007. In 2012 the number dropped sharply to 54 persons (Table 19 and Figure 22), which was due to either the legalization of Moldovans or the observance of the stay regime in the country they live.

Figure 22. Annual number of Moldovans readmitted, 2007–2012, persons



Source: MIA–BMA.

The majority of Moldovans readmitted in 2012 came back from France and Spain.

Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings

Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings (THB) was set as a national priority; hence, a number of international acts were ratified and a set of legislative–normative and strategic acts were adopted to straighten out the situation in this area.²¹

²⁰ That is, the agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Moldova on the readmission of persons residing without authorization and the agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Moldova on the facilitation of visa issuance entered into force in 2008. The provisions of the agreement signed with the European Community regarding the readmission of third-country nationals entered into force in 2010.

²¹ For example, Parliament Decision No. 257, dated 5 December 2008, approving the Strategy for the National Referral System for protection and assistance of victims and potential victims of trafficking in human beings and the corresponding action plan for its implementation, 2009–2011.

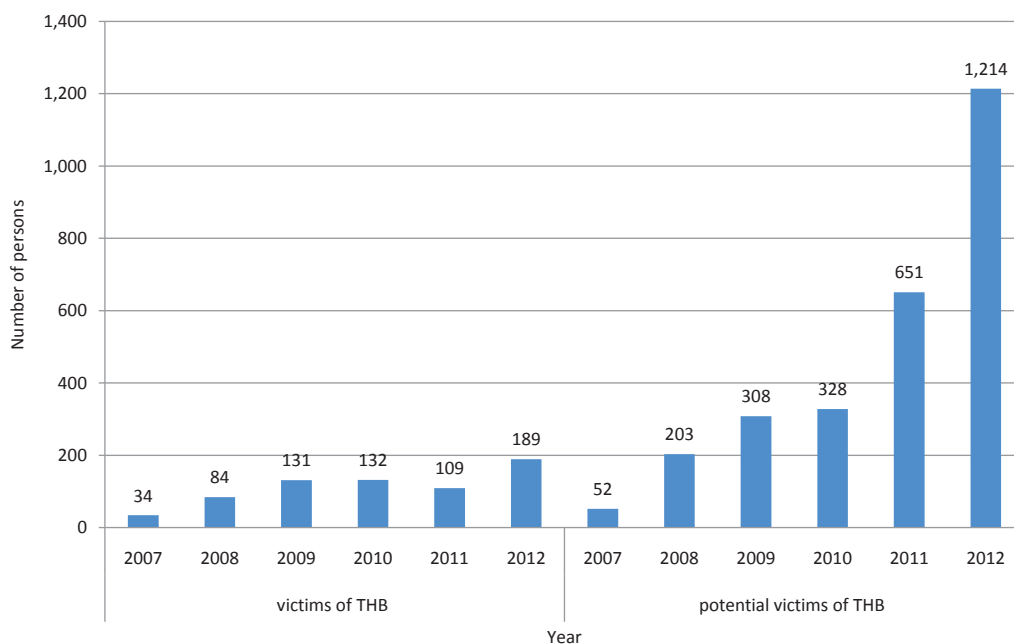
Besides the measures for constraining the given phenomenon, the need to support victims based on a cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary approach was identified.

In 2006, with the support of IOM, external donors and civil society, the National Referral System (NRS) was launched in the Republic of Moldova, with the aim of ensuring a complex framework of protection and assistance for THB victims and high-risk groups. Currently, it constitutes the main framework for cooperation and the coordination of efforts undertaken by stakeholders active in the area of combating trafficking in human beings. The activities set in the NRS are carried out through the multidisciplinary teams, which cover the whole country.

Statistical data show that 189 THB victims were identified in 2012 through the multidisciplinary teams of the NRS. This is 5.5 times higher than the number registered in 2007, a fact that may be explained by more efficient identification of such victims (Table 20). The composition of the identified victims is the following: 89.4 per cent adults (72.6% women and 28.4% men) and 10.6 per cent children (65.0% girls and 35.0% boys).

A total of 1,214 potential THB victims were identified and assisted in 2012, as compared to 651 in 2011. The figure for 2013 is 23 times as much as that in 2007 (Figure 23). It is assumed that the real number could actually be much higher, as there exists an extended group of other persons considered to be at high risk of becoming THB victims.

Figure 23. Number of actual and potential THB victims assisted by the National Referral System, 2007–2012



Source: MLSPF.

Analysis of THB data shows that despite the measures in place, the Republic of Moldova continues to be a country of origin and less a country of transit for THB victims from former Soviet Union countries to European States.

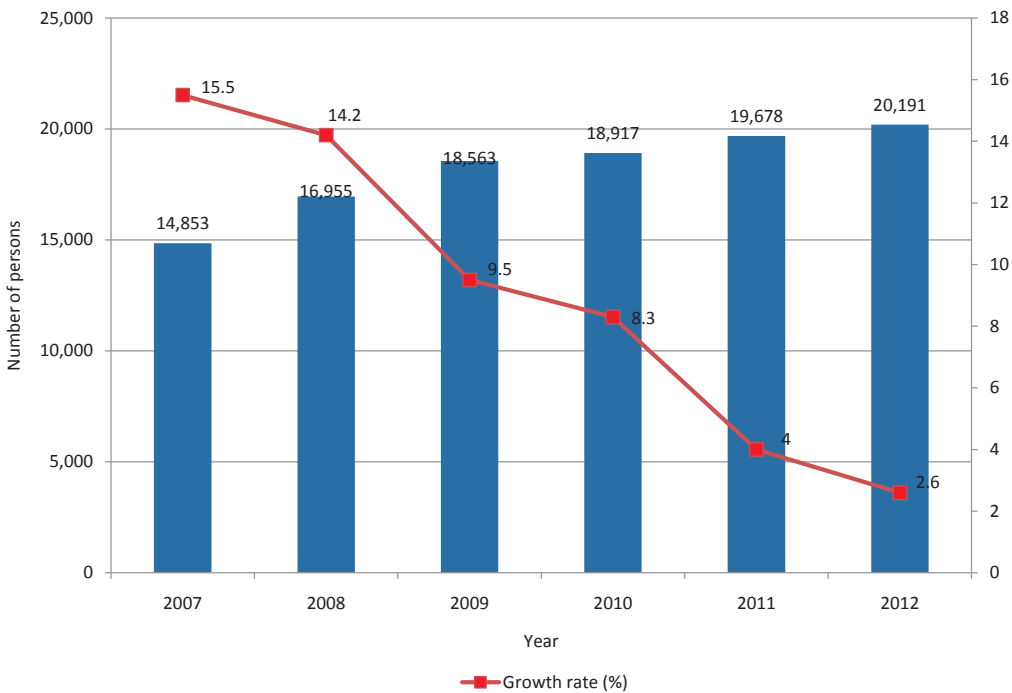
A.2.2. Resident population with foreign backgrounds

This subchapter analyses the migration processes of persons with foreign backgrounds residing in the Republic of Moldova based on data submitted by the MITC (SE SIRC “Registru”) and the MIA–BMA, which are the main sources of information on this subject. The following are used as additional data sources: administrative data from the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI); the results of analytical reports related to the subject; the normative and governmental strategic framework; as well as statistical data from international organizations such as UNHCR and IOM.

Stock of foreigners

By the end of 2012, the total number of foreigners (including Stateless persons) staying in the territory of the Republic of Moldova was 20,191, accounting for 0.6 per cent of the total population. This represents a 2.6 per cent growth in the size of the foreigner population as against 2011, and a 35.9 per cent growth as against 2007 (Figure 24).

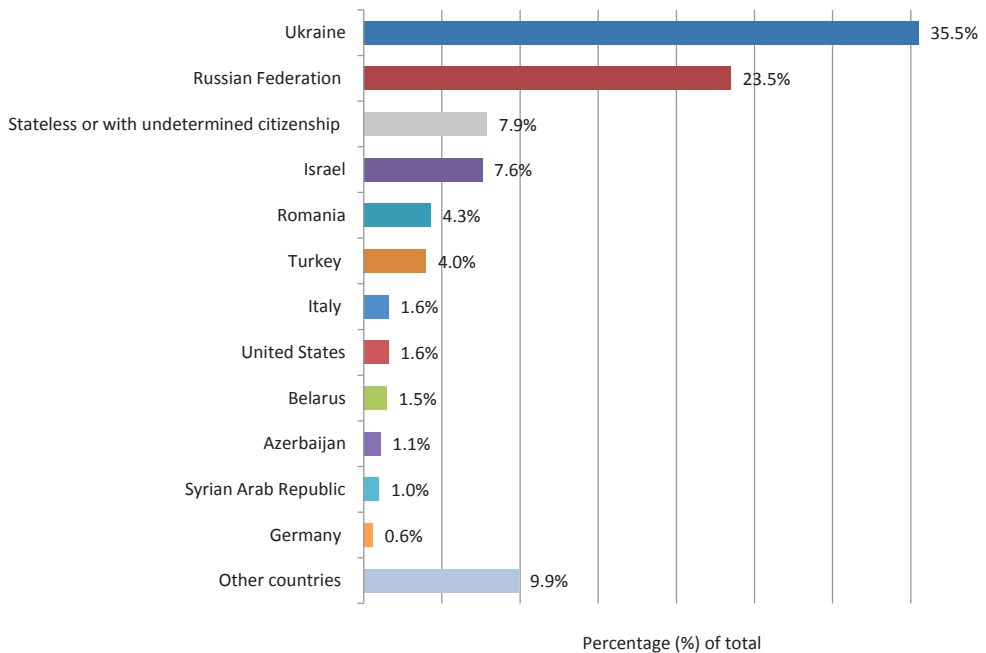
Figure 24. Number of foreigners living in the Republic of Moldova and the year-on-year growth rates for the foreigner population, 2007–2012



Source: MITC/SE SIRC “Registru”.

An uptrend was likewise observed for foreigners' concentration in urban areas, with the share of those settling down in cities accounting for 78 per cent of all foreigners in the Republic of Moldova during the entire reference period (Table 21). The 2012 distribution of the foreigner population by country of previous citizenship shows that the most significant share, 60 per cent cumulatively, was registered by those originating from Ukraine and the Russian Federation (35.5% and 23.5%, respectively), followed by Israel (7.7%), Romania (4.3%) and Turkey (4.0%). Other nations have shares of less than 2 per cent each (Figure 25 and Table 23).

Figure 25. Distribution of foreigners living in the Republic of Moldova by country of citizenship, 2012, per cent



Source: MITC/SE SIRC "Registru".

A rather important share (7.9%) of the foreigners' structure is that of Stateless people and persons with undetermined citizenship.

Naturalized citizens. Naturalization in the Republic of Moldova is carried out in line with the Law on Citizenship,²² which sets the eligibility conditions for applying for naturalization. The total number of naturalized foreigners by the end of 2012 was 672 persons (Table 24). It should be mentioned that Stateless persons account for 69.6 per cent of the total number of naturalized Moldovans, followed by foreigners with undetermined citizenship, at 22.6 per cent, and other foreigners (those who previously had another, known, citizenship), at 7.8 per cent (Figure 26). A total of 9 persons were naturalized in 2012; 18 persons were naturalized in 2011 (Table 24).

²² Specifically, Article 17 of Law No. 1024, dated June 3, 2000 on citizenship of the Republic of Moldova. Available from www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/nationality/National%20legislation/Moldova-Law%20on%20Citizenship%202003.pdf.

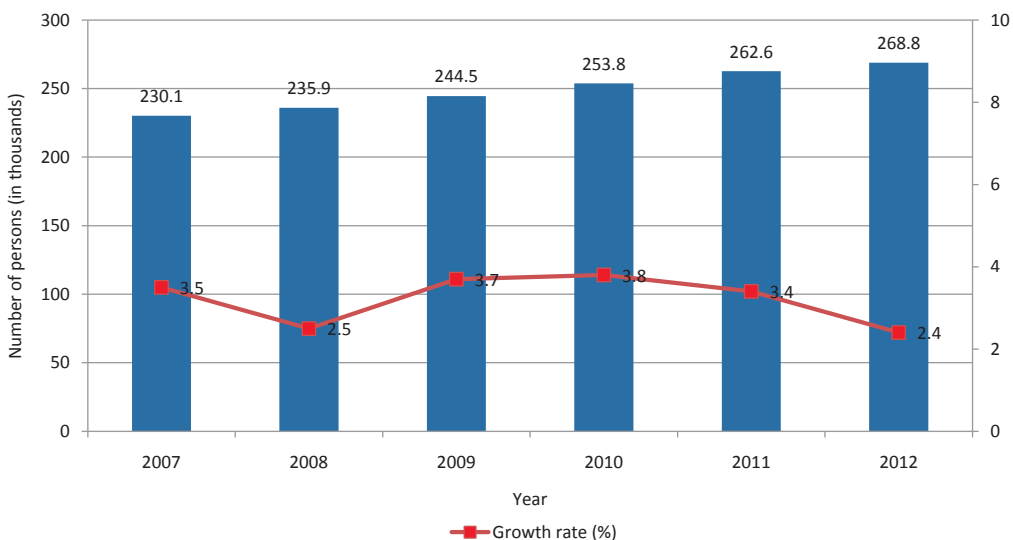
Figure 26. Naturalized Moldovan citizens by category, 2007–2012, in per cent



Source: MITC / SE SIRC "Registru".

Non-natives. The number of foreign-born persons (regardless of citizenship) staying in the Republic of Moldova increased during the 2007–2012 period. By the end of 2012, the number of non-natives reached 268,836, or 7.6 per cent of the country's total population (Table 25). The growth rate for the non-native population from 2011 to 2012 was 2.4 per cent (Figure 27). The distribution of the non-native population according to country of birth shows that 76.9 per cent of them were born either in Ukraine (39.3%) or the Russian Federation (37.6%). The share of non-natives born in other countries varies from 1.5 to 4.9 per cent: Kazakhstan, 4.9%; Italy, 3.9%; Belarus, 1.8%; and Romania, 1.5%.

Figure 27. Number of persons from the Republic of Moldova born abroad and the growth rate for this group, 2007–2012



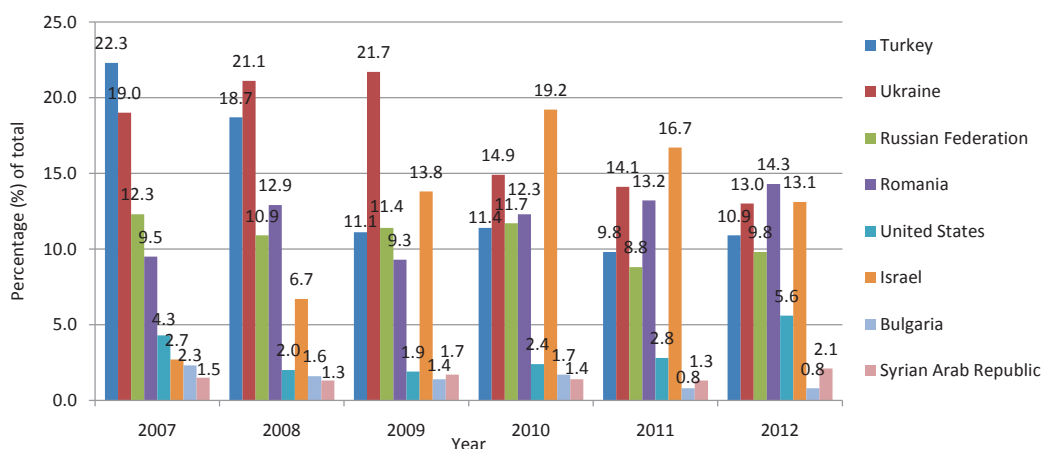
Source: MITC/SE SIRC "Registru".

Immigration of foreigners

The number of immigrations to the Republic of Moldova registered an uptrend over the reference period, from 2,074 persons in 2007 to 3,116 persons in 2012. The growth rate of the immigrant population from 2011 to 2012 was 14.6 per cent. It was mainly men (with women accounting for only 41.7% of immigrants) and persons with specialized secondary education/higher education/scientific degrees (64.4%) who immigrated to the country (Table 26). There was also an increase in number of those with higher education, from 724 persons in 2007 to 1,257 persons in 2012. (Table 27).

The 2012 distribution of immigrants by country of citizenship reveals that, as in 2010 and 2011, the top three countries of origin were Romania (14.3%), Israel and Ukraine (13.0% each), (Figure 28 and Table 28).

Figure 28. Distribution of the immigrant population by country of citizenship, 2007–2012, per cent



Source: MIA–BMA.

In 2012 30.7 per cent of the total number of immigrants came to the country work, 19.8 per cent to study and 34.0 per cent for family reintegration reasons (Table 29).

Temporary stay of foreigners in the Republic of Moldova

The number of foreigners requesting for documentation in the Republic of Moldova is continuously growing. Currently, depending on the purpose of entry and stay in the country, a foreigner may obtain either a temporary stay permit (for work, studies, family reintegration, humanitarian and religious activities, health treatment and other reasons provided for by national legislation) or a permanent stay permit.

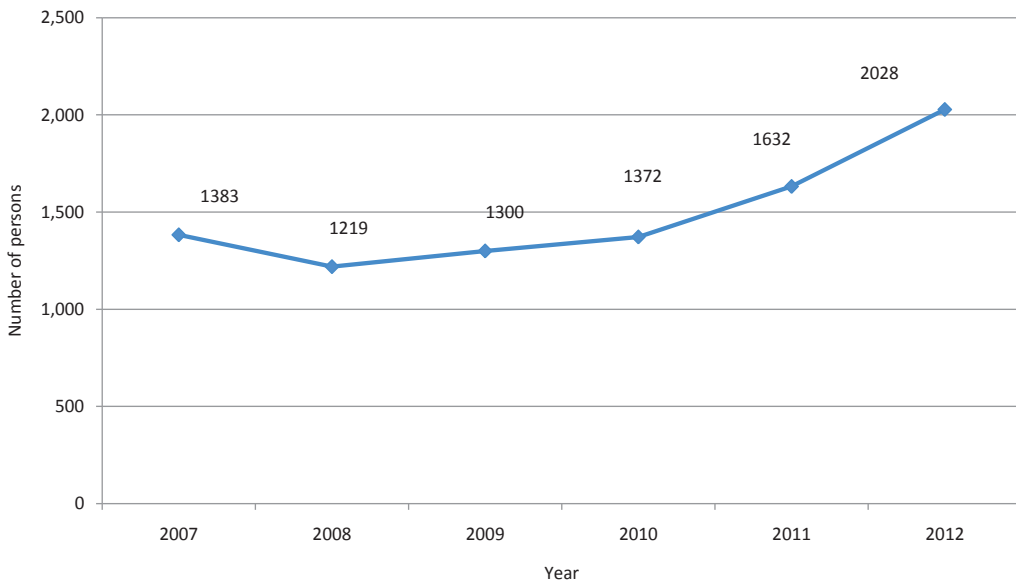
By the end of 2012, the number of foreigners living in the Republic of Moldova and holding permanent stay permits was 12,240 – a growth of 7.5 per cent from 2007. However, the working-age segment's (15–64 years old) share of the population of permanent stay permit-holders decreased by 23.7 percentage points from 2011 to 2012. At the same time,

the share of foreigners living in the country for at least five years increased, reaching 19.8 per cent by the end of 2012 (Table 30).

Statistical data show that more than 2,000 foreigners obtained temporary stay permits, for the first time annually during the reference period. By the end of 2012, the total number of holders of such permits exceeded 6,000. About 38 per cent of the total number of foreigners holding temporary stay permits were persons who reunified with their families; 27.5 per cent came for work or business; and 19.6 per cent for studies or training. As well, over the last years, 10 foreigners obtained the local border traffic permits (Table 30).

Foreign students in the Republic of Moldova. A significant growth in the number of foreigners coming to study in the Republic of Moldova was registered during the reference period, being 1.5 times higher in 2012 than in 2007 (Figure 29).

Figure 29. Number of foreigners studying in the Republic of Moldova



Source: NBS.

According to the data presented in Figure 29, 2,028 persons were studying in the Republic of Moldova in 2012. The distribution by country of origin reveals that the majority of those who came to the country to study arrived from Israel (1,384 persons), followed by Ukraine (165 persons), Romania (155 persons) and the Russian Federation (102 persons) (Table 31).

International protection

International protection of foreigners in the Republic of Moldova is carried out within the limits of the provisions set by international norms,²³ as well as by the national legislation

²³ Namely, Law No. 677, dated 23 November 2001, on the Republic of Moldova's accession to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.

derived from them. Statistical data show that the number of asylum-seekers in the Republic of Moldova from 2007 to 2012 varied continuously. A total of 177 first applications were registered in 2012, which is 2.4 times higher than in 2007. It should be mentioned that there were 79 asylum-seekers with pending applications by the end of 2012, up 61.2 per cent from the previous year (Table 32).

The 2012 distribution of asylum-seekers by country of origin was dominated by Syrians, who accounted for 41.2 per cent of the total, followed by Afghans (9.6%), Armenians (6.8%), Bangladeshis (5.6%), Russians (4.5%), Egyptians (4.0%), Iranians (2.8%) Pakistanis and Turks (2.3% each) (BMA, 2013).

Significant gender-based disparities were observed among the asylum-seekers in 2012, with the majority of applications coming from men, while women accounted for only 29.2 per cent (23.0% in 2007).

In 2012, 45 foreigners benefited from humanitarian protection, while 55 persons were refused.

By the end of 2012, 72 persons with refugee status were living in the Republic of Moldova – a growth of 128.6 per cent from 2011 (Table 32).

Stateless persons. According to statistical data, 1,262 persons were documented Stateless in the Republic of Moldova, which is 197 persons more than in 2007 (Table 23). At the same time, some decreasing trends were observed for the share of Stateless persons among foreigners: In 2012 their share was 9.2 per cent, as compared to 12.6 per cent in 2007 (Table 21).

It should be mentioned that analysis of the national legal framework of the Republic of Moldova reveals a high level of its compliance with international standards, as well as the presence of an adequate information system to identify, prevent and reduce cases of Statelessness.²⁴

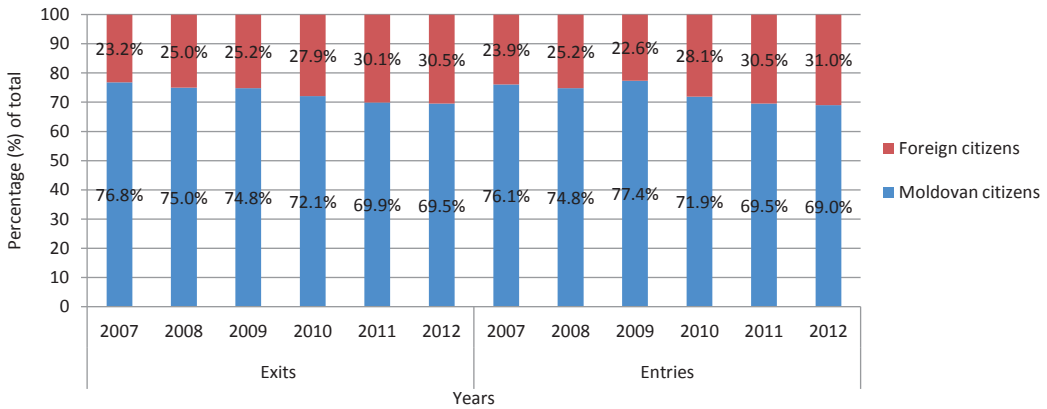
General cross-border mobility

Cross-border mobility continuously increased during the reference period. About 7.33 million entries (5.06 million Moldovan citizens and 2.27 million foreigners) were registered at the State border of the Republic of Moldova in 2012. There were around 122,000 more exits than entries registered at State borders that year (Table 33).

In terms of cross-border mobility, Moldovan citizens registered a 69 per cent share of all movements, with exits prevailing slightly over entries. For foreigners, the situation is proportionally reversed (Figure 30).

²⁴ In December 2011, the Republic of Moldova ratified two UN Conventions from 1954 and 1961, relating, respectively, to the Status of Stateless Persons and Reduction of Statelessness. Accession to these conventions was through Law No. 275 dated 27 December 2011, available from <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=342052>, and Law No. 252, dated 8 December 2011, available from <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=341953>.

Figure 30. Cross-border mobility, 2007–2012, per cent



Source: BPD.

As for visa-based entries of foreigners, statistical data from the MFAEI show that in 2012, diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Moldova abroad issued 15,541 visas – a 3.92 per cent increase from 2011 (Table 34)²⁵.

Legislation enforcement in the area of migration and return

In 2012, 1,452 immigrants were identified as illegally staying in the Republic of Moldova; this number is 259 persons less than in 2011 and just below half that in 2007. The measure of expulsion from the country was meted out to 101 foreigners, while 88 were taken under public custody and 2 were declared undesirable. All other cases await a final decision by the competent courts (Table 35).

²⁵ The visa regime applies to the citizens of 135 States (mainly from Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Far East, Latin America and Southern America countries). The citizens of Canada, Israel, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the EU and the CIS States enter the territory of the Republic of Moldova without visas for a stay of up to 90 days, calculated from the date of the first entry. www.mfa.gov.md/entry-visas-moldova

Part B: Impact of Migration

The magnitude of the labour migration phenomenon in the Republic of Moldova during the last several years has had a dual impact on the population of the country: on one hand are the positive socioeconomic effects determined by remittances; on the other are sociodemographic effects that lead to the deterioration of human capital.

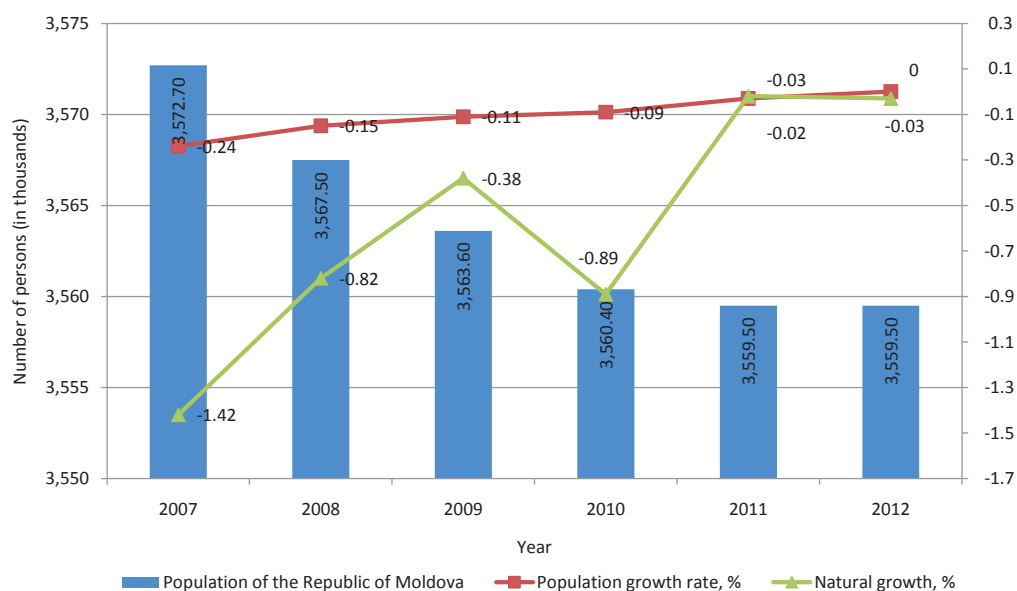
B.1. Migration and demographic development

International migration continues to be an important factor for country's demographic development, having both direct-and-immediate and indirect impacts over time. To be specific, the prevalence of emigration over immigration has an immediate impact on the size of the population and contributes to its continuous decrease, and the labour migration of women of childbearing age leads to the deterioration of the main demographic indicators due to birth rate decrease.

Evolution of population number. The demographic decline registered in the country over the last two decades was also observed during the period studied. During the 2007–2012 reference period, the stable population decreased by almost 13,000 persons.

In addition, the last two years witnessed some stabilization trends, confirmed by a number of indicators in the area (Table 36). Population growth rate in 2012 was zero, as compared to 2011 (-0.03). Natural growth has significantly become less negative, registering -0.03 in 2012 and -0.02 in 2011, as compared to -1.42 in 2007 (Figure 31).

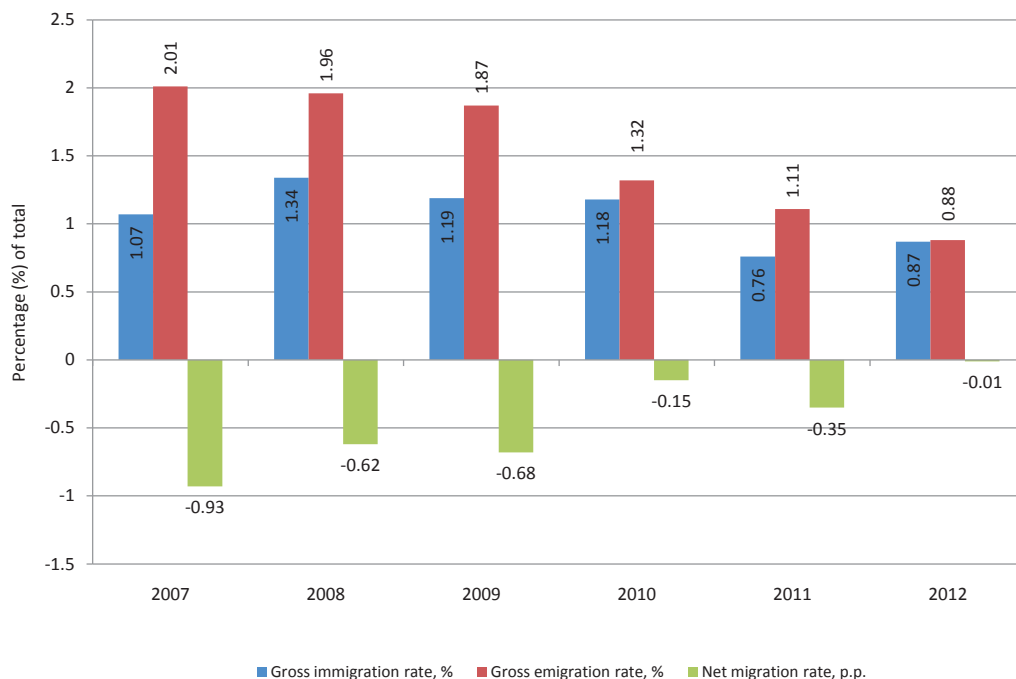
Figure 31. Demographic trends in the Republic of Moldova, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

Emigration versus immigration. Statistical data confirm as well that emigration has continued to prevail over immigration in the Republic of Moldova. Nevertheless, the recent years exhibit a trend towards stabilization. In 2012 the gross emigration and gross immigration rates practically equalled, with the difference being only -0.01 percentage point, in favour of emigration (Figure 32).

Figure 32. Dynamics of the migration phenomenon, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

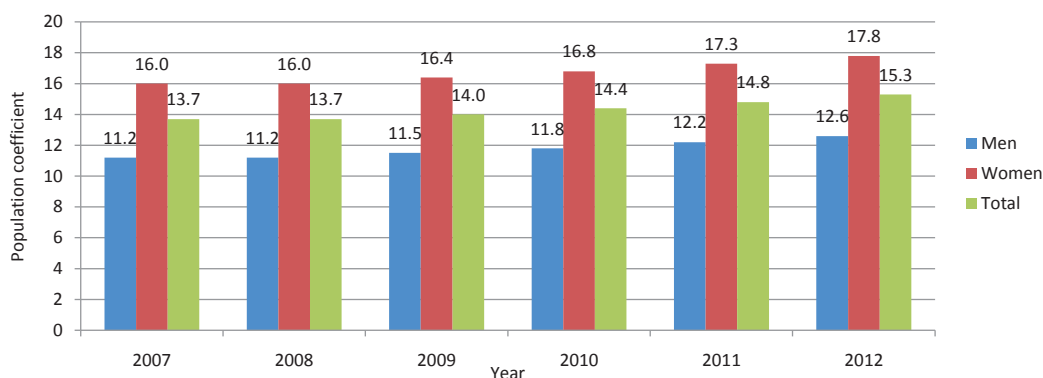
The emigration phenomenon continues to negatively influence other sociodemographic indicators. For example, the number of registered marriages dropped during the reference period from 29,200 in 2007 to 24,300 in 2012, when there were 6.8 marriages per 1,000 population. The emigration of one spouse leads to a definite break-up; as a result, many marriages fall apart. The divorce rate in 2012 was 3.0 divorces per 1,000 population, a decline from previous years (Table 36).

Demographic composition. It may be noted that other demographic indicators have also deteriorated. The population share of persons aged under 15 years dropped from 17.57 per cent in 2007 to 16.09 per cent in 2012; on the other hand, the share of the older age groups increased from 17.52 per cent in 2007 to 21.68 per cent in 2012. The demographic dependency ratio (national definition) was rather high in 2012 at over 50 per cent²⁶ (Table 37).

²⁶ The demographic dependency ratio (international definition) for 2012 is computed at 35.21 per cent, decreasing by over 3 percentage points as compared to 2007 (Table 39).

Migration amplifies the process of population ageing because it is mainly the young and working-age population who emigrate. It should be noted that from 2007 onwards, the ageing coefficient (the number of persons aged 60 years and over per 100 population) became closer and closer to the critical value of 16, reaching 15.3 in 2012, indicating an advanced stage of the phenomenon. The ageing coefficient for women is even higher, computed at 17.8 in 2012 (Figure 33).

Figure 33. Population ageing coefficient, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

Urban versus rural. Migration is more pronounced in rural areas than urban ones, significantly influencing the demographic situation in villages. Demographic indicators, disaggregated by area of residence, confirm the deterioration of human capital in rural areas. For example, it may be noted that in 2012 the dependency ratio in rural areas exceeded by almost 10 percentage points that in urban areas; the population share of persons aged 65 years old and over in villages exceeds by 1.6 percentage points that in cities and the old age ratio by 3.8 percentage points. At the same time, there was an increasing urbanization rate alongside a decreasing share of persons under 15 years old, leading to the assumption of internal migration from villages to cities in parallel with international migration (Table 39).

Foreign population. An uptrend over the reference period was noted for the foreigner population in the Republic of Moldova. The population of persons of foreign origin counted 20,191 by the end of 2012. This represents just a little over 0.5 per cent of the total stable population of the country and, thus, does not affect the population age distribution.

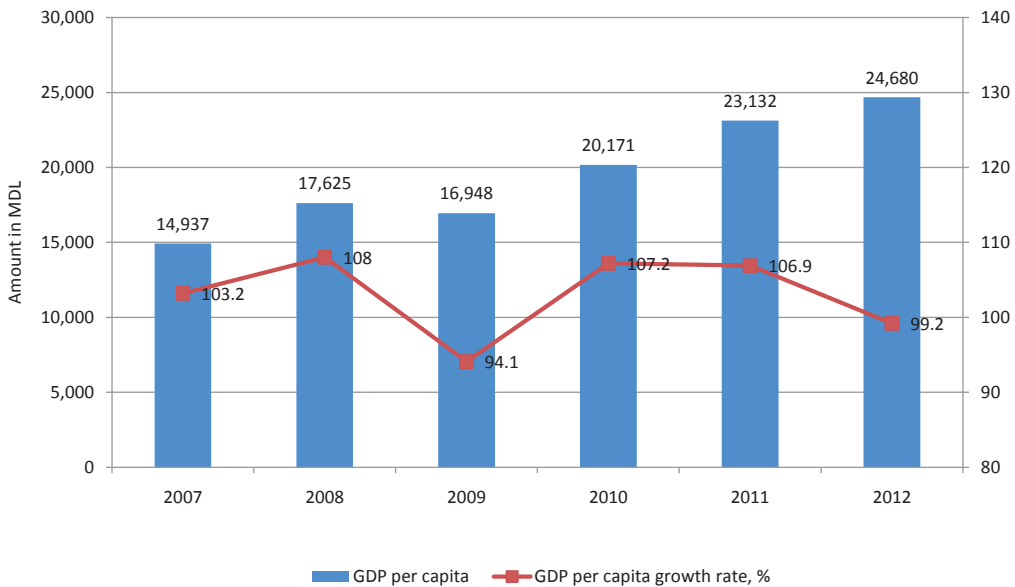
An uptrend was registered for the number of elderly foreigners: The share of foreigners of the population of persons aged 65 years old and over increased from 0.23 per cent in 2007 to 0.40 per cent in 2012. There are more men than women among foreigners, with the foreigner sex ratio at 110.36 per cent in 2012 (Table 40).

B.2. Migration and economic development

Macroeconomic context. Labour force migration out of the country has an important and significant role, not only in terms of demographic indicators, but also from an economic perspective. As the number of Moldovans leaving the country to work abroad increased, a

significant growth was noted for the amount of transfers made by these individuals from abroad, widely influencing the main macroeconomic indicators. The growth of the Republic of Moldova’s GDP over the previous years is mainly attributed to revenues sent by Moldovan migrants working abroad. It seems that the return of Moldovan migrants to the country during the global economic crisis of 2008 and 2009 has influenced the positive dynamics of the GDP per capita. During the reference period, fluctuations were registered for the nominal value of the indicator, with a 6 per cent decrease in the growth rate in 2009 as compared to 2008. Starting 2010, the value of the GDP per capita increased continuously, but the growth rate registered a downtrend, unlike in previous years (Figure 34 and Table 41).

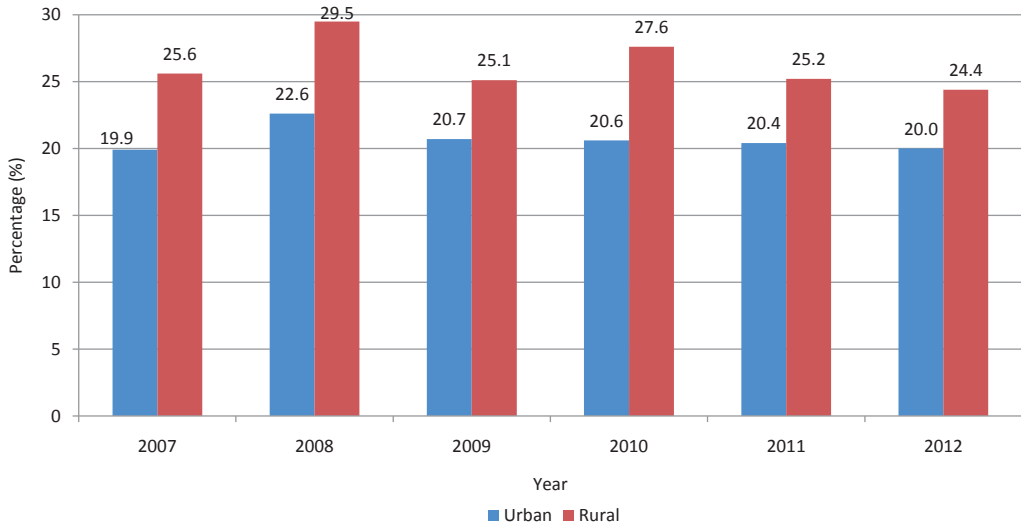
Figure 34. Gross domestic product per capita



Source: NBS.

Households and remittances. Remittances are an important means for the population of the Republic of Moldova to escape poverty. HBS data reveal a considerable share of Moldovan households receiving remittances during the reference period (Table 42). Over 22 per cent of the total number of households benefited from remittances in 2012, with the highest figure (26.4%) obtained in 2008. A higher share of households benefiting from remittances was registered in rural areas than urban areas, 29.5 per cent and 22.6 per cent, respectively. After a jump in 2010, the share of households receiving remittances started to register a downtrend, dropping to 24.4 per cent in rural areas and 20 per cent in urban areas in 2012 (Figure 35).

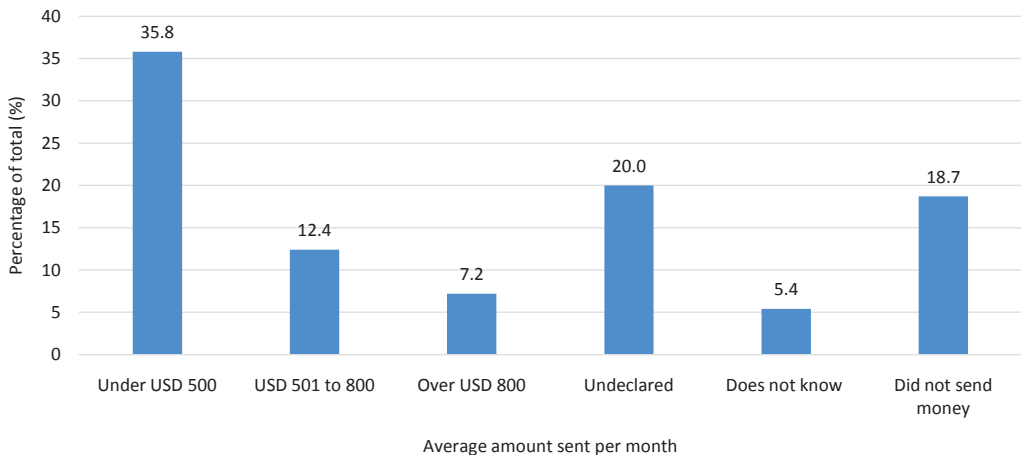
Figure 35. Share of households receiving remittances in urban and rural areas, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

LFS data from 2012²⁷ reveal that the majority of migrants (81.3%) sent or transferred money to their families. The transferred amounts varied: over one third of migrants (35.8%) sent or transferred under USD 500 on a monthly basis; 12.4 per cent, between USD 500 and 800; and 7.2 per cent, over USD 800 (Table 43). Less than one fifth of the migrants (18.7%) stated that they did not send or transfer money back home (Figure 36).

Figure 36. Distribution of migrants by average monthly amounts sent/transferred home in 2012, per cent



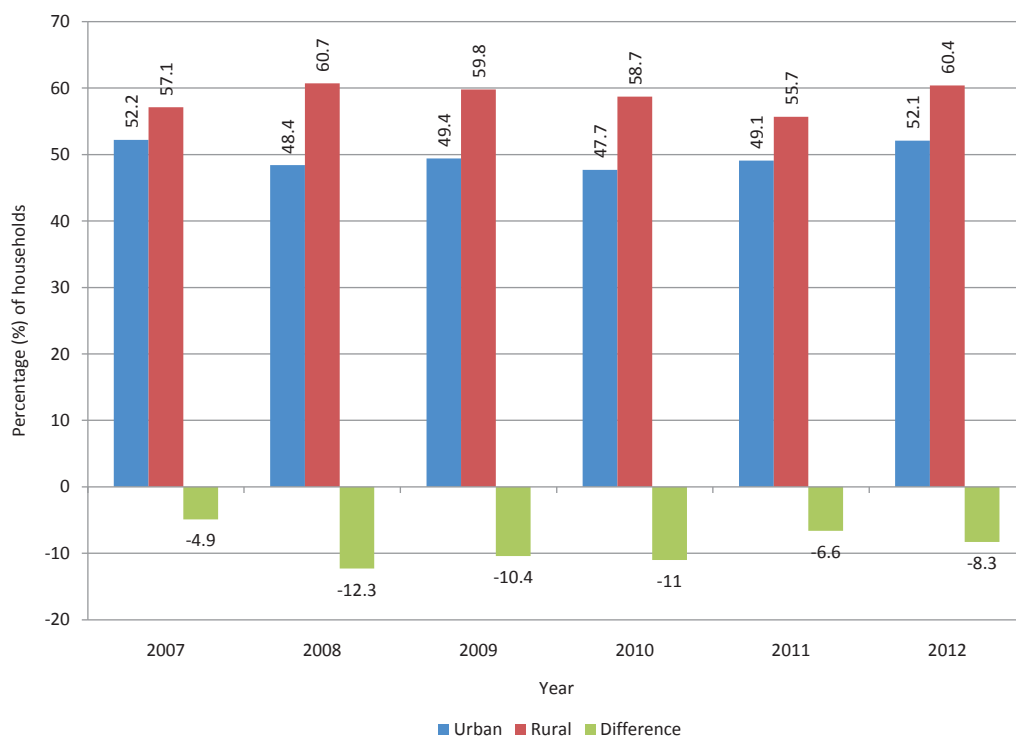
Source: NBS (labour force migration).

²⁷ The “Labour Force Migration” ad hoc module, carried out during the 2012 Fourth Quarter Labour Force Survey (National Bureau of Statistics), reports that 76.5 per cent of migrants indicated as their main reason for leaving abroad the small salaries in the Republic of Moldova; 8.8 per cent, the lack of jobs according to their skills and qualifications (www.statistica.md/pageview.php?l=en&idc=350&id=2570).

Households' disposable income is significantly influenced by remittances. HBS data show that during the 2007–2012 period, remittances, on average, accounted for half of the disposable income of recipient households (the share depending on the amount received), with the highest value reached in 2012, at 56.9 per cent (Table 42).

Significant differences in the volume of remittances received are observed between urban and rural households. In rural areas, the share of remittances of the total household disposable income is very significant, exceeding 60 per cent in 2012 with a difference of 8.3 percentage points than the share of in urban areas. Among urban households receiving remittances, the share is nevertheless important, accounting for almost half of their disposable income (Figure 37).

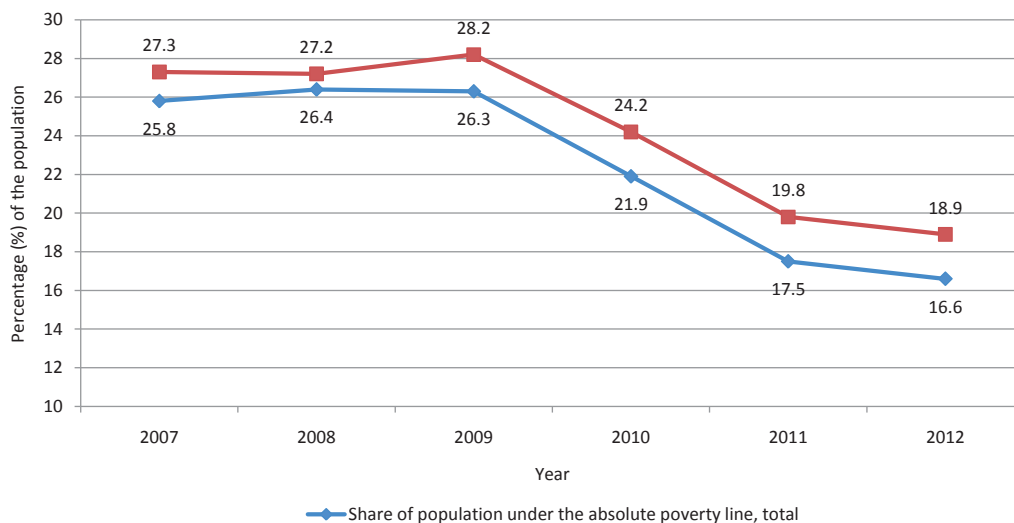
Figure 37. Share of remittances of the total household disposable income, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

Remittances contribute to increasing a household's level of well-being. The proportion of the population under the absolute poverty line registered relatively stable trends from 2007 to 2009, accounting for 26 per cent, on average, of the total population of the country. This indicator has been constantly decreasing since 2010 (Table 44 and Figure 38). In 2012 the proportion of the population under the absolute poverty line accounted for 16.6 per cent, 9 percentage points lower as compared to 2007. It should also be mentioned that poverty incidence is higher among children (persons under 18 years old), at 18.9 per cent.

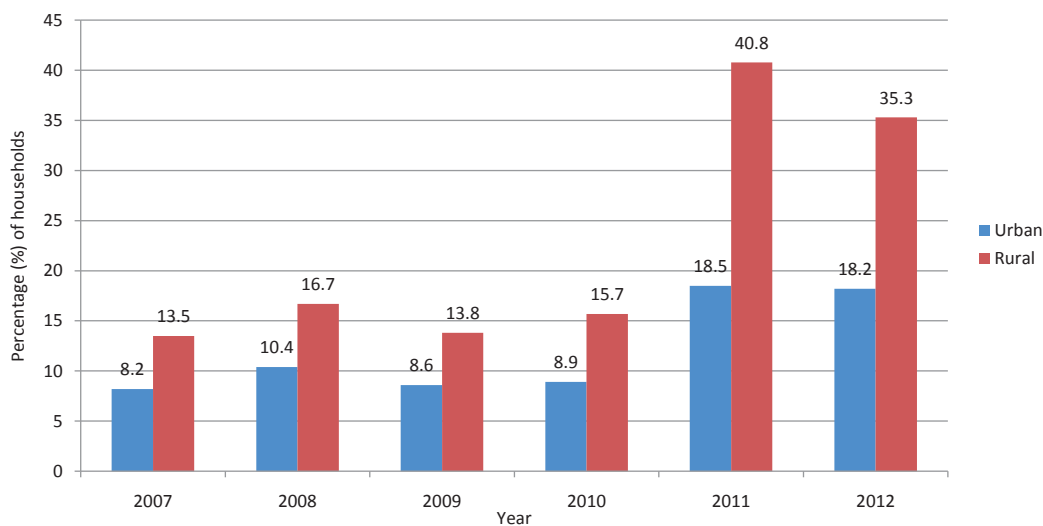
Figure 38. Share of population under the absolute poverty line, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

The flow of financial resources from persons working abroad may contribute to diminishing absolute poverty, but it also leads to an increase in the inequality between households that receive remittances and those that do not. According to the same source, the proportion of households which would be under the poverty line if not for remittances increased from 11.3 per cent in 2007 to 27.6 per cent in 2012, with the highest increase registered in rural areas (from 13.5% to 35.3%) (Table 42 and Figure 39).

Figure 39. Share of households which would be under the absolute poverty line if not for remittances, 2007–2012



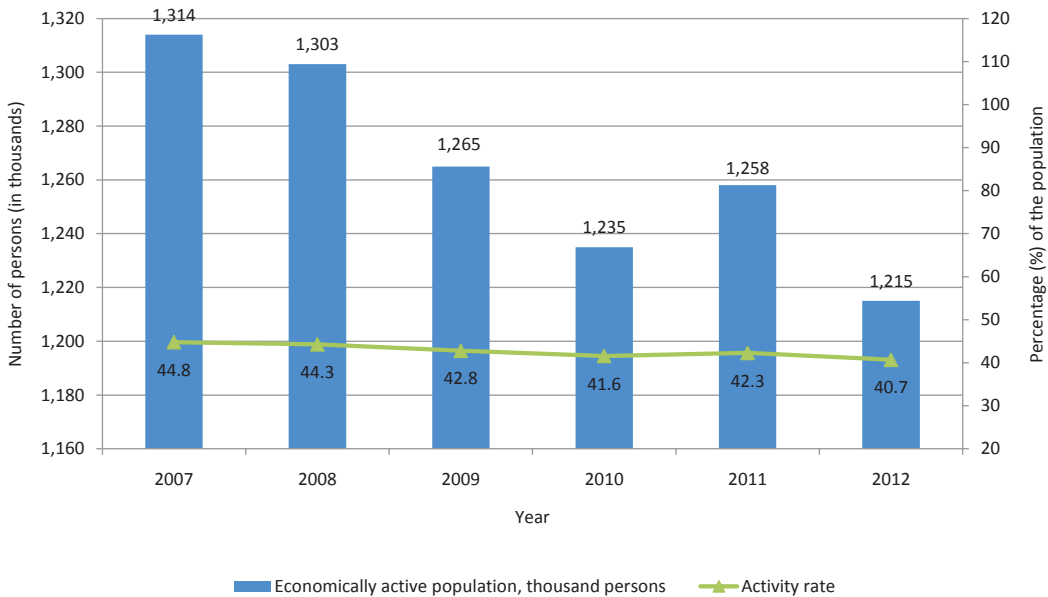
Source: NBS.

B.3. Migration, employment and the labour market

B.3.1. Labour market features

The labour market in the Republic of Moldova continues to face difficulties, with a dramatically negative impact on employment levels. During the 2007–2012 reference period, the size of the economically active population²⁸ decreased constantly from 1.314 million to 1.215 million, the registered drop being 99,000 persons (7.5%). Hence, activity rate decreased during the reference period by 4.1 percentage points (Figure 40 and Table 45).

Figure 40. Economically active population, 2007–2012, per cent



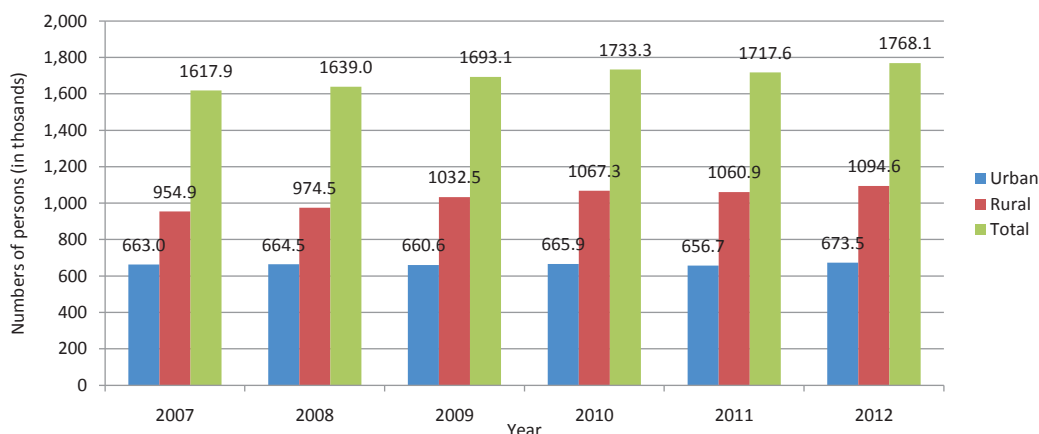
Source: NBS.

A large economically inactive population²⁹ was registered during the reference period, which increased from 1,617,900 persons in 2007 to 1,768,100 persons in 2012 (Figure 41). A significant share of the working-age population that is economically inactive has become one of the most challenging demographic features of the labour force market operation in the Republic of Moldova.

²⁸ The economically active population includes all persons supplying labour for the production of goods and services, and includes both the employed and the unemployed.

²⁹ The economically inactive population includes all persons, regardless of age, who did not work at least one hour and who were not unemployed during the reference period. The economically inactive population includes the following categories: (a) pupils and students; (b) pensioners (all categories); (c) housewives (who perform only domestic work in the household); (d) persons maintained by other persons or by the State, or those who maintain themselves through other revenues (rents, interest rates, leases, etc.); and (e) persons declared as working or looking for a job abroad (this category is conventionally categorized as economically inactive) (definition from the National Bureau of Statistics).

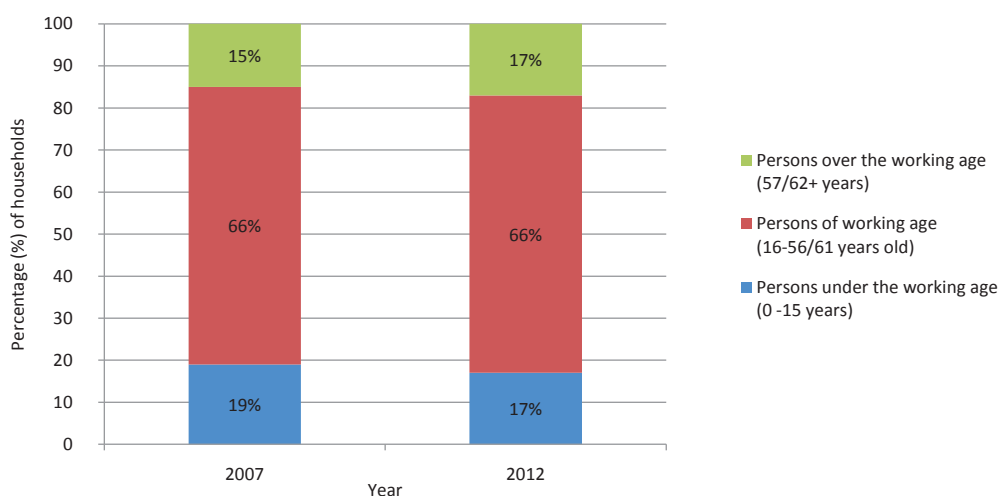
Figure 41. Economically inactive population, by area of residence, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

Working-age population. Official statistical data indicate a slight decrease in the size of the working-age population (working age: 16 to 56 or 61 years old³⁰), from 66.57 per cent in 2011 to 66.36 per cent in 2012. This trend is confirmed by a decreasing growth rate, from 99.78 per cent in 2011 to 99.68 per cent in 2012 (Table 46). Although these differences seem insignificant, the data reveal some changes in the population structure. In 2012 the proportion of the population below working age, registered at 19 per cent, was lower than the 17 per cent in 2007, while the share of the population above the working age increased from 15 per cent to 17 per cent. If the migration of the younger segments of the population persists, the working-age population will continue to shrink, inducing negative effects associated with this phenomenon (Figure 42).

Figure 42. Population below, of and over the working age, 2007 and 2012

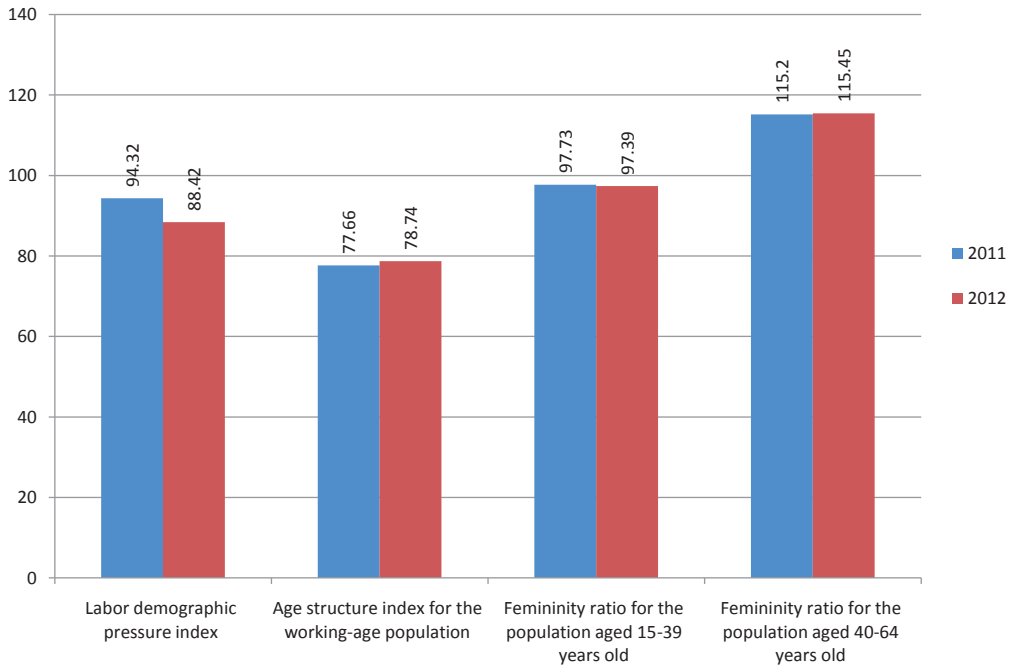


Source: NBS.

³⁰ According to the national definition.

A number of specific demographic indicators confirm the deterioration of the labour force. It may be noted that a downtrend was registered from 2011 to 2012 for the labour demographic pressure index, from 94.32 per cent to 88.42 per cent, and for the femininity ratio for the population aged 15 to 39 years old, from 97.73 per cent to 97.3 per cent. On the other hand, the age structure index for the working-age population increased from 77.66 per cent to 78.74 per cent, as well as the femininity ratio for the population aged 40 to 64 years old (Figure 43).

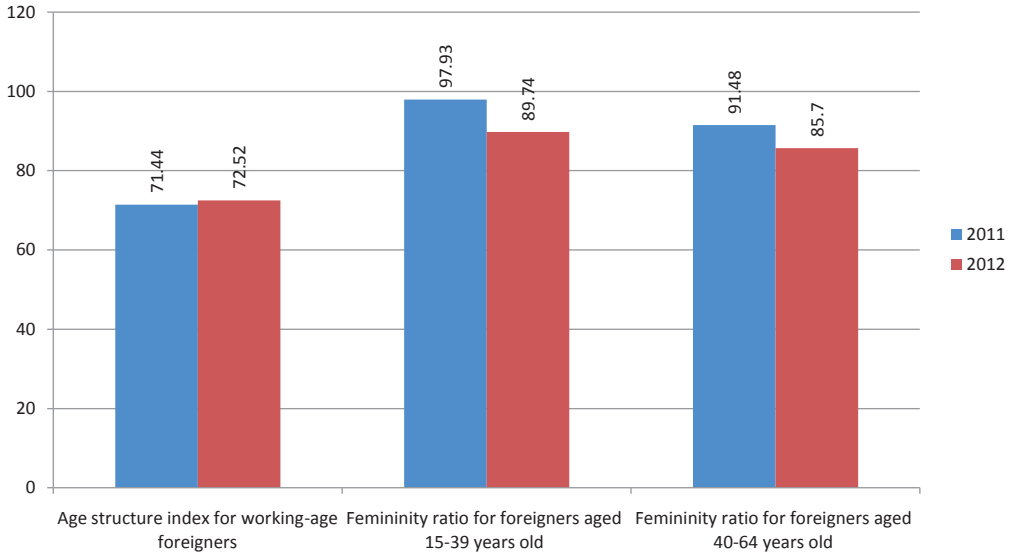
Figure 43. Demographic indicators for the labour force, 2011 and 2012



Source: NBS.

Foreign working-age population. In 2012 the number of working-age foreigners reached 18,661 persons, accounting for 92.4 per cent of the total number of foreigners staying in the Republic of Moldova. The number of working-age foreigners in 2012 was higher by 467 persons than in 2011, but the growth rate of the group was lower in 2012 (103.93%) than in 2011 (102.68%) (Table 47). The age structure index for working-age foreigners increased, from 71.44 per cent in 2011 to 72.52 per cent 2012; the femininity ratio, on the other hand, experienced a decline (Figure 44).

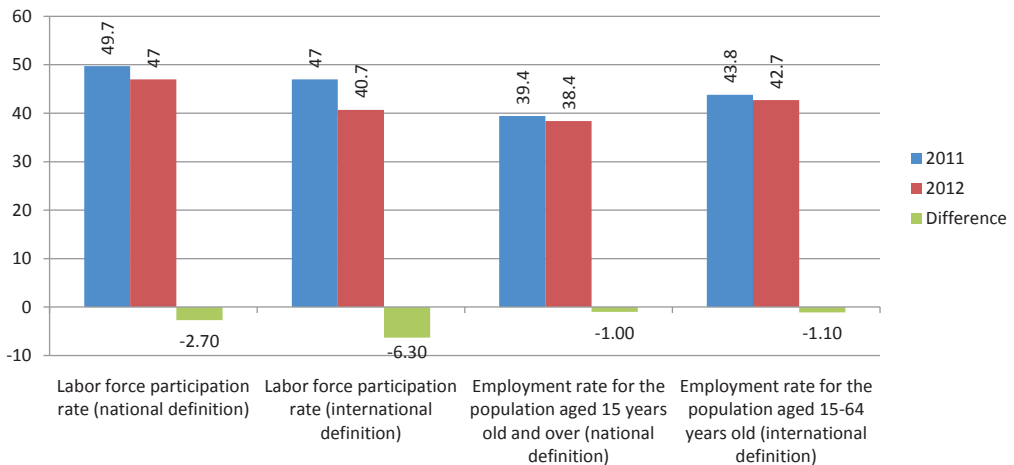
Figure 44. Demographic indicators for the labour force, 2011 and 2012, per cent



Source: MITC / SE SIRC "Registru".

Participation in labour force and employment. The indicators characterizing employment and participation in the labour force decreased in 2012 as compared to 2011. To be specific, the labour force participation rate, calculated according to the national definition, decreased by 2.7 percentage points; using the international definition, the decrease was measured at 6.3 percentage points. The employment rate, estimated according to either definition, dropped by 1 percentage point (Figure 45).

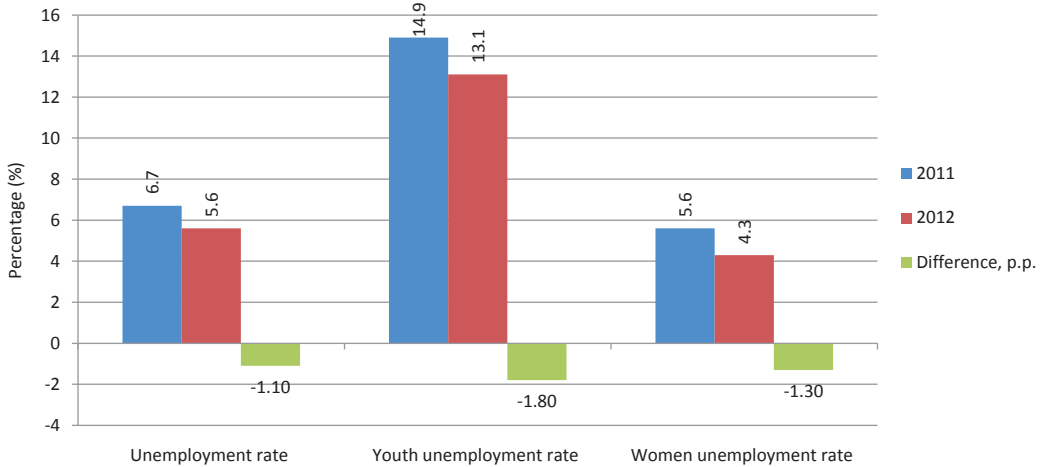
Figure 45. Indicators related to employment and participation in the labour force, 2011 and 2012, per cent



Source: NBS.

Unemployment. Unemployment indicators also registered downtrends. For instance, the unemployment rate decreased in 2012 as compared to 2011 (Figure 46 and Table 48). It would seem that the situation is getting better, but taking into consideration the continuously growing migration flow and the increasing number of Moldovans working abroad, unemployment indicators should be interpreted carefully, as the observed effect may be due mainly to continuous migration processes.

Figure 46. Indicators related to unemployment, 2011 and 2012, per cent

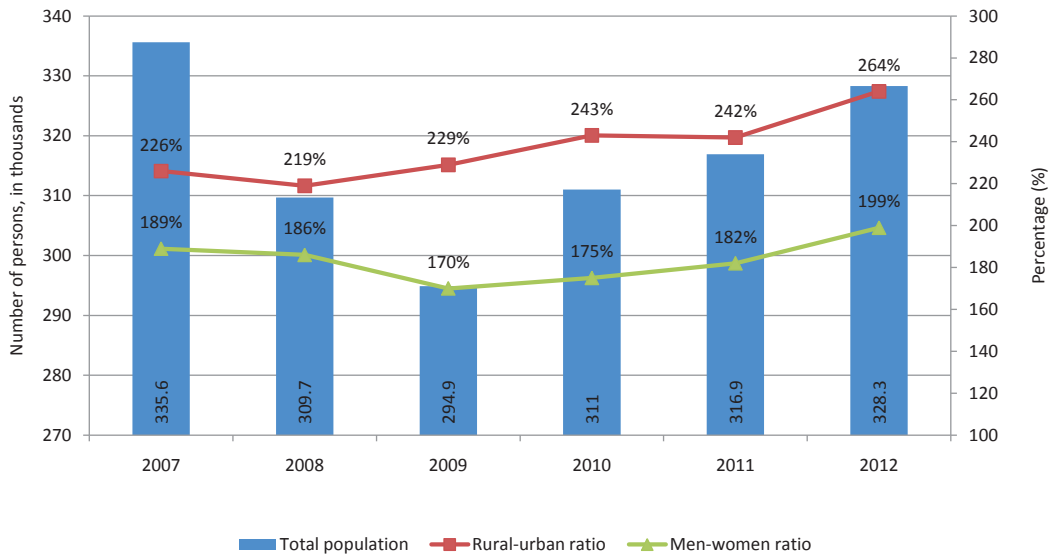


Source: NBS.

B.3.2. Labour migration

Labour migration is studied in the Republic of Moldova based on LFS data. As mentioned in Part A of this report, about 300,000 persons aged 15 years old and over are registered annually as working abroad or looking for a job abroad. The migration profile is characterized throughout the reference period by a large share of inhabitants from rural areas and an urban–rural ratio varying between 219 per cent and 264 per cent. The migration flow has a masculine character, with a man–woman ratio varying between 170 per cent and 199 per cent during the 2007–2012 reference period (Figure 47). It is mainly persons under 44 years who migrate to work abroad, accounting for 78 per cent of the total number of labour migrants in 2012 (Table 14); of those migrants, about 89 per cent had secondary education (Table 16).

Figure 47. Dynamics of labour migration, 2007–2012



Source: NBS.

B.4. Migration and social development

To develop effective and efficient migration policies, it is very important to carry out an in-depth analysis of the migration phenomenon, which would allow national authorities to adopt data-based actions.

Deficit in teaching staff continues to be one of the negative effects of the migration processes. Education remains to an area heavily affected by migration, and teaching staff drain continues to be triggered by economic factors. The data revealed by the survey on the impact of migration among teaching staff and researchers in the Republic of Moldova³¹ show that low wages in the country are among the main push factors for the emigration of teachers and researchers. Even though teaching staff benefited in 2010 from a large wage increase, their salaries are 20 per cent lower than the country's mean salary. This problem of small salaries is rather acute among young teachers and researchers. Another important economic push factor is the impossibility of improved living conditions of families.

According to the data from the aforementioned survey, over half of all interviewed teachers reported having intentions to go abroad; 40.3 per cent of respondents mentioned that they would like to leave the country for temporary work; 7.9 per cent would like to leave for good; and 5.4 per cent would like to study overseas. The profile of those who intend to leave temporarily to work abroad is as follows: young teachers, aged 25 to 39 years, with children, living in rural areas, with small incomes, and usually with dual citizenship. Those who wish to leave the country permanently are in most cases: married, with work experience of up to 10 years, living in urban areas (except for those who live in the municipalities of

³¹ Survey implemented within the project "Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skills Dimension", implemented from March 2011 to December 2013 by the International Labour Organization, in partnership with the IOM and the World Bank.

Chisinau and Balti) and have average incomes. Migration intentions are more pronounced among men than women. Intention to leave the country is more common among young teaching staff and researchers, with the largest shares registered for the 25–29 age group (67%).

Migration of the population to look for better-paying jobs abroad reduces poverty on one hand, but generate strong social effects on children, on the other hand. According to the data of the quantitative survey carried out by the MLSPF for identifying children in need, including children left behind by migrant parents, the number of left-behind children with both parents abroad was 21,600 in 2012. The number of children with one parent abroad was 83,600, of whom 29,900 had their mothers abroad and 53,700 had their fathers abroad (Table 49).

Migration also influences integration in education, as well as the perception of school enrolment opportunity. Statistical data show that the rate of coverage of compulsory general education is decreasing, with significant urban–rural gaps. The overall gross enrolment rate in primary education in 2012 was 93.8 per cent, 0.2 percentage points lower than in 2007 (Table 50). The gross enrolment rate in primary education in rural areas in the same year was 86.1 per cent and was 20.9 percentage points lower than in urban areas. The overall gross enrolment rate in gymnasium education in 2012 was 86.7 per cent, as compared to 90.1 per cent in 2007 – a decrease by 3.8 per cent. The gross enrolment rate in gymnasium education in rural areas was 81.8 per cent, 14.4 percentage points lower than in urban areas (Figure 48).

Figure 48. Gross enrolment rates in primary and gymnasium education, by area of residence, 2007–2012



Gross enrolment rate in primary education



Gross enrolment rate in gymnasium education

Source: NBS.

Assuring social minimum guarantees and migrants' access to the social protection system. The assurance of social minimum guarantees for migrant workers and their families is a priority among the social policies of the Republic of Moldova. From 2008 to 2012, bilateral social security agreements were signed with Bulgaria (December 2008), Portugal (February 2009), Romania (April 2010), Luxemburg (June 2010), Austria (September 2011), Estonia (October 2011), the Czech Republic (November 2011) and Belgium (September 2012). As well, negotiations were held regarding the draft social security agreements between the Republic of Moldova and Poland, Hungary, Lithuania and Latvia. Moreover, a number of other States have expressed their availability to regulate relations in the area of social insurance, namely, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, the Russian Federation, Spain and Turkey.³²

It should be mentioned that the State social insurance system of the Republic of Moldova does not impose any conditions that are advantageous to migrants and their families. Access to the system is offered only when some general conditions are met, specifically, social insurance contributions. As such, the majority of migrants who work abroad do not participate in the social insurance system, and this fact generates increased pressure that undermines the financial sustainability of the system. Current migrants are potential applicants for State social allocations (social assistance benefits similar to social pensions). Although the State social insurance system has been offering the option of individual insurance since 2006,³³ through a contract with the National Social Insurance Company to

³² MLSPF project "Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skills Dimension", Component 3: Activities related to negotiation and implementation of bilateral agreements in the area of social security. Project information available from <http://mmpsf.gov.md>.

³³ Article 2 amended by Law No. 399-XVI dated 14 December 2006; Article 169, Government Decision No. 39-42, 23 March 2007.

obtain a minimum pension under general conditions, very few migrants actually access this opportunity. By the end of 2009, only 300 out of the total number of persons individually insured in the public social insurance system were migrants. As for migrants' and their families' access to monetary social assistance, surveys show that the situation of families with seasonal migrants is confusing, when dealing with their inclusion in the poverty-based benefit programme called "Social Help." Currently, the national social assistance system does not have a mechanism for the complete monitoring of household incomes, and the situation is worse in case of households with migrants.

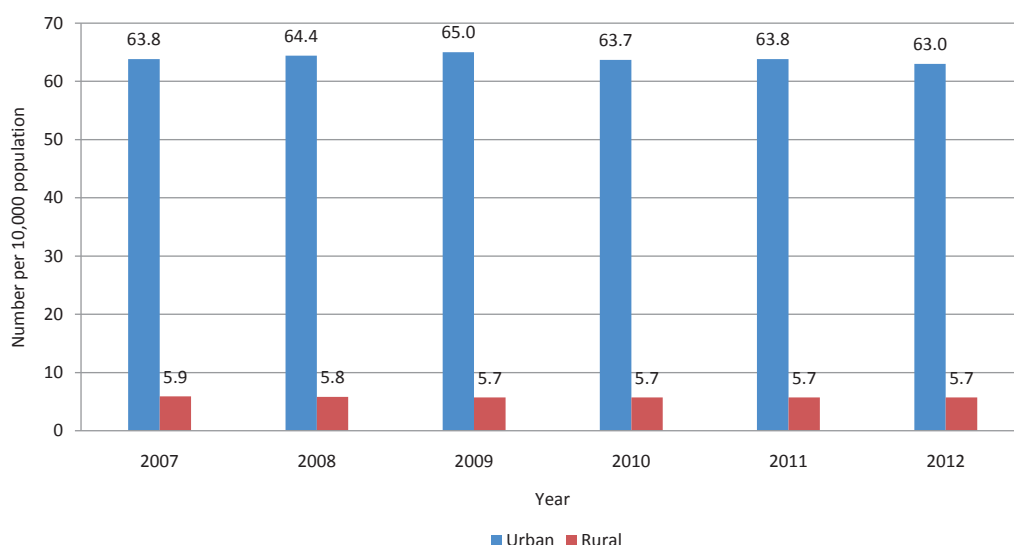
B.5. Migration and health

The health system continues to cope with problems related to health professional staffing. With the re-launch of the economy and the introduction of mandatory health insurance schemes in the 2000s, the intensity of the brain drain from the system has decreased. The indicators have been registering a rather constant evolution, but the deficit of personnel in the system remains to be a problem.

In 2012 a total of 10,570 doctors and 22,788 health workers with secondary education were working in the health system (Table 51). The level of staffing with health professionals was 29.7 doctors and 64.0 health workers with secondary education per 10,000 inhabitants, which were below the average levels registered in the EU of 32.3 and 77.5, respectively, per 10,000 inhabitants.

Another problem is the uneven distribution of health professionals between rural and urban areas, with staffing levels 11 times higher in urban areas (63.0 doctors per 10,000 inhabitants) than in rural areas (5.7 doctors per 10,000 inhabitants) (Figure 49).

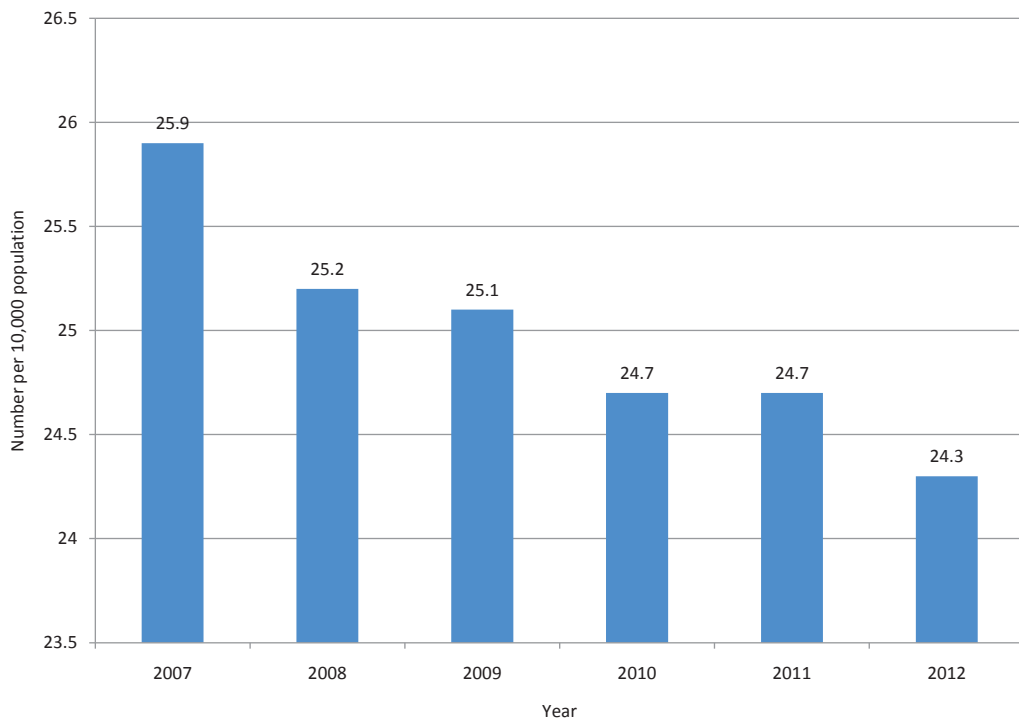
Figure 49. Number of doctors in urban and rural areas per 10,000 inhabitants, 2007–2012



Source: Ministry of Health.

Staffing with health professionals in rural localities registered a downtrend. In 2012 the staffing level accounted for 24.3 specialists per 10,000 inhabitants, which is less than in 2007 by 1.6 specialists (Figure 50).

Figure 50. Number of health professionals with secondary education in rural areas per 10,000 inhabitants, 2007–2012



Source: Ministry of Health.

The deficit in health professionals in rural areas is explained by the higher levels of development and concentration of hospital infrastructure in cities, providing additional social and economic opportunities, and by the high emigration rate of health professionals.

Part C: Migration Management Framework

This chapter provides some information and updated data in relation to the EMP (2005–2010 edition). Section C.1. reveals the most recent amendments and completions of the national legislative and regulatory frameworks in the area of migration. Section C.2. presents a description of the changes that occurred within the institutional framework for migration management, including the creation of the Bureau for Diaspora Relations. Section C.3. presents and analyses policy documents pertaining to migration developed and/or adopted over the last several years. Section C.4. provides an overview and assessment of programmatic actions that have been implemented in the country over the last two years. (For more information on migration management framework, please see the EMP Report (2005–2010 edition).

C.1. Laws and regulations (national, regional, and international levels)

During the past few years, an array of conceptual documents and laws determining policy in key areas of migration management (namely, regular migration, including emigration, immigration and social integration; asylum; and the prevention of irregular migration and smuggling of migrants)³⁴ and practices were adopted for the long term.

Although further improvements are necessary, the instruments and policies adopted are largely in line with international standards (EC, 2012).

Organizing and facilitating legal migration

In line with the opinions expressed by experts from the European Commission, the legislative and policy framework on preventing and counteracting trafficking in human beings is consolidated and aligned with international standards (EC, 2012). In 2013 the Republic of Moldova signed bilateral agreements on labour migration with Poland (2013) and Hungary (2013). Negotiations are currently being held for the signing of social protection and insurance agreements with Belgium, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania and Turkey. Bilateral agreements represent important governing tools meant to provide a high level of flexibility to countries, and which allow these countries to focus on a specific group of migrants, adjust themselves to the fluctuations on the labour market and share monitoring and management responsibilities (i.e. between countries of origin and destination). The social security agreements aim to determine the rights of the citizens to circulate between States and benefit from social security, hence avoiding the restrictions to the entitlement to such benefits.

³⁴In discussing and analysing migration management in the Republic of Moldova, the macro-level pillars revealed in the country's National Strategy for Migration and Asylum (2012–2020) are used for categorization. The choice of this strategy was based on the fact that it seeks to link the realm of migration and asylum to the general development policy framework of the country and is closely intertwined with the Government's activity programme, as well as feeds in into the country's new development strategy (Moldova 2020: National Development Strategy: Seven Solutions for the Republic of Moldova), which has been in force since January 2012. (Oprunenco, 2012) National Strategy for Migration and Asylum: An Attempt of Holistic and Integrated Approach towards Migration Issues in Moldova, Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration (CARIM East) Explanatory Note 12/10. Socio-Political Module (Florence, CARIM East, 2012). Available at: [www.carim-east.eu/media/sociopol_module/Explanatory Notes Template Moldova - 10.pdf](http://www.carim-east.eu/media/sociopol_module/Explanatory%20Notes%20Template%20Moldova%20-%2010.pdf).

On 16 October 2012, an agreement was signed in Jerusalem between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Government of Israel regarding the Implementation Protocol A (for the construction sector) and the temporary employment of Moldovans in Israel in certain sectors. The top objectives of the agreement are to ensure Moldovans legal, equitable and transparent employment on a temporary basis in Israel. The agreement and the implementation protocol provide for the temporary employment of 1,000 qualified construction workers. The workers have to be highly skilled and well-trained in any of the following specialties: formwork for industrialized construction, wood formwork, steel welding, glazed architectural terra-cotta coating for floors and walls, and coating works. The implementation of the agreement will contribute to ensuring the protection of the rights of Moldovan workers according to Israeli laws and rules, including those on labour and living conditions. Workers employed under this agreement will also be protected, according to legislation in the social security area, in case of work accidents, temporary loss of workability and enterprise insolvency. The temporary employment of workers will be within the remit of the two States' relevant public institutions. In the case of the Republic of Moldova, the National Employment Agency will be in charge of that.

Communication and collaboration with the diaspora

Given the commitments made under the Republic of Moldova's Government Activity Programme for 2011 to 2014, as well as a response to the request Moldovan citizens residing abroad (e.g. the resolution of the Fourth Congress of the Moldovan Diaspora, 10–12 October 2010, regarding the need to create a state subdivision for the diaspora), a Government Decision was passed on 19 October 2012 to establish the Bureau for Diaspora Relations (DRB) within the State Chancellery. The bureau is responsible for developing and coordinating public policies for and with the participation of diaspora.

Mainstreaming migration in national development strategies

According to Prime Minister's Decree No. 58, dated 7 June 2013, focal points (at the level of deputy ministers and deputy directors) were appointed in ministries and other central administration authorities to be responsible for promoting and implementing the State policy on the diaspora, as well as for coordinating, applying and implementing topics related to the diaspora at the technical level. In line with the decree, the respective focal points shall perform their duties in the area of diaspora cooperation in close coordination with the DRB. The aim of the decree is to enhance institutional capacities to implement the State policy in the area of diaspora relations; ensure efficient interaction among governmental institutions and their cooperation with the diaspora; ensure better mainstreaming of responsibilities in policymaking for the diaspora; implement "the-whole-of-Government" approach in developing policies for the diaspora, according to which every institution would be responsible, within the limits of its own mandate, for diaspora-related issues (covering all Moldovan citizens and persons originating from the Republic of Moldova, whether in the country or outside its borders). This principle was respected when creating the DRB as an institution to coordinate policies at the Government level, according to the directives set forth in the Government's Activity Programme "European Integration: Freedom, Democracy, Well-being" in the area of diaspora relations.³⁵

³⁵ In line with Prime Minister's Decree No. 58 dated 7 June 2013. Available from <http://lex.justice.md/index.php?action=view&view=doc&lang=1&id=348273>.

In line with Prime Minister's Decree No. 58, as well as for the purpose of assessing the impact of developing and implementing public policies on the diaspora and on migration, and as a result of public consultations held with all the relevant stakeholders in relation to this topic, it was decided to develop and promote necessary amendments to include ex ante and ex post analyses of public policies' impact on diaspora and migration in the draft methodological guidelines.

C.2. Institutional framework

The Republic of Moldova has a solid institutional framework in the area of migration policymaking, as well as migration management, with the participation of a huge number of institutional stakeholders (see Annex 3).

Bureau for Diaspora Relations (DRB). Established in October 2012, the bureau is under the direct subordination of the Prime Minister and deals with developing and coordinating public policies for and with diaspora participation. The strategic objectives of the DRB may be categorized in two directions: On one hand, the DRB ensures the coordination of policies and programmes for the diaspora at the Government and ministry levels; on the other hand, it maintains a continuous dialogue with the Moldovan diaspora.

Bureau of Migration and Asylum (BMA, www.bma.gov.md). Established in July 2006, the bureau is responsible for developing and implementing the State policy in the area of migration and asylum. Additionally, based on Government Decision No. 634, dated 24 August 2012, the BMA was appointed to be the institution responsible for the development of subsequent EMP Reports.³⁶ In this respect, a new unit was created within the BMA, to be responsible for coordinating the collection and analysis of data for the EMP, as well as for initiating and coordinating the meetings of the technical working group for the EMP.

Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF www.mpsfc.gov.md/en/start) undertook measures to negotiate and conclude bilateral agreements to regulate the flow of migrant workers and to protect them, and to prevent family violence and trafficking in human beings (more information in this respect is presented in Section C1). In this context, in 2012 a unit was created within the National Employment Agency (www.anofm.md), that is, the Section for Overseas Employment. This unit is responsible for: (a) implementing and coordinating activities provided for in the bilateral agreements concluded by the Republic of Moldova with other countries; (b) enforcing and observing the provisions of legislation in the area of labour migration; and (c) monitoring the activities of private employment agencies. Other duties of the unit include: (a) provision of information assistance to Moldovan citizens about policies on the legal emigration of the labour force; (b) monitoring activities related to the implementation of bilateral agreements signed by the Republic of Moldova with other States; (c) evaluation and monitoring of private employment agencies' activities.

Ministry of Economy (www.mec.gov.md). This ministry is responsible for creating a favourable investment climate in the Republic of Moldova for attracting internal and foreign

³⁶ Government Decision No. 634, dated 24 August 2012, to approve the List of Indicators and the Template of the Extended Migration Profile of the Republic of Moldova, is available from <http://lex.justice.md/viewdoc.php?action=view&view=doc&id=344691&lang=1>.

investments, including remittances. In this respect, the Government decided to extend the pilot programme for attracting remittances into the economy – “PARE 1+1” (www.odimm.md/ro/pare/default.htm) – until 2015, allocating MDL 32 million for 2013, which is double the amount allocated for 2012. The programme continues to be implemented and coordinated by the Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises Sector Development (www.odimm.md) and works “to facilitate migrants’ access to finance, helping at the same time to channel remittances through official ways, to introduce the best practices from the migrants’ host countries, to create some levers to introduce know-how, creating new jobs and solving other social problems.”³⁷

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS, www.statistica.md). The bureau is the central administrative authority managing and coordinating statistics-related activities, including those in the area of migration. Starting 2012, the NBS has undertaken measures for the planning of the Census of Population and Dwellings in the Republic of Moldova in 2014. In this respect, Law No. 90 (dated 26 April 2014, regarding the Census of Population and Dwellings in the Republic of Moldova in 2014) and Government Decision No. 967 (dated 21 December 2012, regarding actions for enforcing Law No.90) were adopted. Census 2014 was held on May 12 to 15, whereby data and information about the population and dwellings were registered in the census questionnaire, as approved by the NBS. The pilot census was carried out in April 2013 on a selected sample, ensuring the possibility to eliminate registered deficiencies. The exercise aims to estimate the size of the population and collect data about its territorial distribution; demographic, ethnocultural, educational and economic characteristics; dwellings’ and houses’ fund; as well as about the living conditions in the country. The Republic of Moldova is the first former Soviet republic organizing a census not only of its population, but also of dwellings, in line with the existing practice in the EU.

Cooperation with Moldovan diaspora associations abroad is part of the State diaspora policy, implemented via a number of strategies and action plans. The organization of the Diaspora Congress in Chisinau is considered to be a mechanism for setting relations and promoting cooperation with co-nationals abroad, as well as for enhancing diaspora structures. The Fifth Congress of the Moldovan Diaspora was held in Chisinau from 11 to 13 October 2012 and was organized in line with the national action plan for cultural and social support for the Moldovan diaspora from 2012 to 2014, approved via Government Decision No. 237, dated 17 April 2012, and Government Decree No. 29, dated 19 April 2012, on establishing the Congress Organizational Committee. The Fifth Congress of the Moldovan Diaspora served as a platform for discussions on the outcomes and successes of the activities undertaken by Moldovan authorities to help settle diaspora-specific problems based on the diaspora’s experience, as well as its involvement in the economic, social, academic and political processes in the Republic of Moldova. Decision makers, diaspora associations and international structures were convened to build a complex image of the problems related to the diaspora, identify joint solutions, and suggest rational deadlines for implementing such solutions. The coordinator for preparing and organizing the Fifth Congress was the Bureau of Interethnic Relations, with support from IOM Moldova and in collaboration with line ministries and other relevant institutions. The next diaspora congress (the sixth one) is planned to take place in the autumn of 2014.

³⁷ Visit www.odimm.md/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=36&Itemid=184&lang=en for further project information (in Moldovan).

Regional partnerships in migration area

The Republic of Moldova participates in regional partnerships on migration intended to consolidate policy cooperation among neighbouring countries, host countries, and migrants' countries of origin.³⁸

The second international roundtable at the experts' level was organized in February 2012. Entitled "The Eastern Partners' Contribution to the Stockholm Program", the event was organized within the Söderköping Process,³⁹ launched in the Republic of Moldova in 2001 to respond to the challenges brought about by EU expansion to the East and to promote better cooperation in asylum- and migration-related issues emerging between countries located along the Eastern border of future EU Member States. The discussions held during the roundtable specifically focused on sharing experiences in the area of asylum, protection, migration and management at the border. As well, the discussions tackled the implementation level of the recommendations provided at the Conference entitled "Eastern Partners' Contribution to the Stockholm Program," held in Chisinau in 2011. The entire process is coordinated via a network of "national coordinators" in participating countries, such as the BMA (with the Service of Education, Forecasts and Strategies acting as the national coordinator in the Republic of Moldova) and a Secretariat led by the Swedish Migration Board.

"EU Border Assistance Mission in Moldova and Ukraine" (EUBAM) was launched on 30 November 2005, as a response to a joint request submitted to the European Commission by the President of the Republic of Moldova and the President of Ukraine. Starting 1 December 2014, EUBAM has been implemented by IOM Moldova, prior to which it was implemented by UNDP Moldova.

C.3. Policy framework

The Government has developed a strategy to support the small and medium enterprises' sector for 2012 to 2020 and the action plan for implementing the strategy for 2012 to 2014, "in the context of shifting from the consumption-based economic development model to a new paradigm focused on exports, investments and innovations."⁴⁰

The Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States and the Republic of Moldova was initiated in November 2013, replacing the previous Partnership and Collaboration Agreement. The main objective of the EU–Moldova collaboration framework, as set forth in the Association Agreement, is to promote the political association and economic integrations between the parties, based on common values and close relations, including by increasing the participation of the Republic of Moldova in EU policies, programmes and agencies. One of the commitments assumed by the parties refers to deepening the dialogue and cooperation in the areas of mobility, migration, asylum and border management, in line with EU migration policies related to collaboration in the area of legal migration and the

³⁸ More information about all the regional partnerships in migration of which the Republic of Moldova is a part, is available in Section C of the EMP Report for 2005–2010.

³⁹ In 2011 the Söderköping Process was integrated with the Eastern Partnership, under the multilateral dimension of Platform 1 of the Eastern Partnership.

⁴⁰ For more information on the Strategy for SME Sector Development 2012–2020, visit <http://particip.gov.md/proiectview.php?l=ro&idd=278>.

assurance of efficient implementation of the readmissions agreement. Hence, migration is reflected as an important topic in the Association Agreement. Specifically:

- (a) Article 14 provides for “cooperation in the area of migration, asylum and border management,” with a focus on the “joint management of migration flows,” “the main causes and consequences of migration” and the facilitation of “circular migration favouring development.”
- (b) Article 32 provides for “collaboration based on exchange of information and best practices” in the area of “labour migration efficient management, related to enhancing the positive impact of migration on development.”

Reintegration and return of Moldovan migrants is one of the elements included in national legislation. A number of activities continued to be successfully implemented after 2012 as well, such as the pilot project “PARE 1 + 1” and the Programme for Youth Economic Empowerment (PNAET), which provide training to develop entrepreneurial skills, as well as financial assistance for start-ups.

The reintegration and return of Moldovan migrants remains a major objective clearly stipulated in the National Strategy on Migration and Asylum (2011–2020) and the action plan for implementing the strategy for 2011 to 2015. In this respect, a draft action plan was developed for 2014 to 2016, to support the reintegration of the citizens returned from abroad. This draft refers mainly to developing efficient legislative, institutional and information frameworks to facilitate the reintegration of returned migrants, including their reintegration in the labour market; develop migrants’ entrepreneurial skills to attract their revenues into the national economy; support the reintegration of Moldovan citizens returned from abroad in the mandatory health insurance system and social protection schemes, among others. The MLSFP is monitoring and coordinating the implementation of the said action plan.

Cooperation with the diaspora associations of Moldovans abroad is part of the State policy. As mentioned in Section C2, from the institutional perspective, as one of its main tasks of the newly established DRB is to establish and maintain an efficient and continuous dialogue with the diaspora. To consolidate the mechanism for cooperation with Moldovan diaspora associations, the Moldovan Government effected several changes to the Regulations of the State Chancellery,⁴¹ one of which was to include the DRB in the organizational chart of the State Chancellery, under the direct subordination of the Prime Minister. According to modifications made in October 2012, the DRB is responsible for “ensuring the coordination of the State policy in the area of relations with the diaspora [...]; coordination of the policymaking in the area of relations with the diaspora, hence contributing to preserving and affirming the ethnical, cultural and linguistic identity of Moldovans abroad; harnessing the diaspora’s human and material potential; coordination of cultural, educational, economic and social activities performed by ministries and other public authorities to support and to collaborate with diaspora representatives”.

⁴¹Specifically, in Government Decisions No. 780, dated 19 October 2012. Available from <http://lex.justice.md/viewdoc.php?action=view&view=doc&id=345122&lang=2>.

The State pilot programmes for remittance investment and the permanent/temporary re-attraction and the socioeconomic reintegration of migrants continued to be successfully implemented. The focus is currently placed on providing Moldovans abroad with wide protection, preserving cultural identity and fostering migrants' return home. In this context, the Action Plan for cultural and social support for the Moldovan Diaspora was adopted for 2012 to 2014. This document aims to promote and create conditions for preserving the development and manifestation of cultural and linguistic identity in the country of residence, guaranteeing multidimensional cooperation with Moldovans residing abroad.

In August 2013 the first pilot programme for the temporary return of diaspora children – Diaspora, Origins, Roots (DOR) – was organized. The DOR Programme is meant for young members of Moldovan diaspora and aims to raise awareness among the second and third generation of migrants regarding their cultural identity and to create emotional links between the country of origin and the diaspora. The programme emerged as a result of the clearly expressed need of the Moldovan diaspora to preserve the link with traditional Moldovan values of and increase the level of emotional connection with the country. The pilot project of the DOR was organized by the Moldovan Government (through the DRB) in partnership with IOM Moldova. Intended to become a large programme to meet the needs of the different beneficiaries, the pilot project was tested from 20 to 28 August 2013 in the Republic of Moldova, with the participation of 20 diaspora members from different countries and 5 young people from the Republic of Moldova. The participants were selected from the 14–16 age group, in fulfilment of the objective to set up a nucleus which would become the spokesperson of the programme. To fulfil the mission, the agenda of the programme included creative, sports, artistic and linguistic activities, as well as activities to get to know the history and culture of the country, cultural visits and official meetings.

The main tool for operationalizing the strategic policies and documents related to combating irregular migration and trafficking in human beings continues to be the NRS for THB victims and potential victims. The NRS is an integrated system providing comprehensive assistance to victims and vulnerable persons, including children and the left-behind elderly, by referring them to local authorities and service providers for civil society.

Coordination and coherence of policies at the national level. Currently, the coordination of migration-related policies and strategies occur within an impressive institutional set-up, channelled through the following inter-institutional bodies.⁴²

The **Commission for Coordination of Certain Activities Related to the Migration Process** is a permanent government advisory body established in February 2010 and chaired by the MIA. It was created for the coordination of the activities of public authorities as regards the management and monitoring of the migration processes; the supervision of activities in the field of migration; and ensuring cooperation between state institutions, NGOs and international agencies/organizations with competencies in the field of migration management. The commission is convened as necessary or at least once per quarter. Prior to 2013 the commission was not efficient due to the sporadic character of its activity and the recommendatory character of its decisions. Hence, the May 2013 “prioritization

⁴² More information about the consultative interministerial bodies in the area of migration may be found in Section C of the EMP Report, 2005–2010 edition.

retreat” of the Moldovan Government and the UN Moldova Country Team held to set up priorities in the area of migration and development (organized within the pilot programme “Mainstreaming of Migration into Development in Moldova”) discussed and proposed, among many other topics, the need to re-launch the activity of the commission. For this purpose the second meeting of the commission was held on 11 November 2013, convening the members appointed according to Government Decision No. 133, dated 23 February 2010, to establish this consultative body. During this meeting, the participants discussed the need to amend the regulation of the commission so as to complete the commission membership with representatives from civil society – the main partners in developing and adjusting policies in line with international and European standards, as well as in implementing policies in migration area. Hence, representatives from the DRB, IOM Moldova and UNHCR Moldova were admitted into the commission. All the suggested modifications were made to streamline the activity of the commission, ensure transparency for its activity, and enable better dissemination of information. It was agreed that the entire EMP coordination process would be supervised in the future by the commission, this function having been taken over by the National Commission for Population and Development until 2013.

The mechanism for monitoring and coordinating the implementation of the **Republic of Moldova–European Union Mobility Partnership** encompasses a number of tools, including the High-Level Reunion, the Local Platform of Cooperation and the Local Platform for Cooperation in extended format.

It was decided that the two cooperation platforms should be organized at the same time to convene representatives of Moldovan authorities, EU Member States, the European Commission, the European External Action Service, international organizations, civil society and the academia. The objectives of such reunions were to assess the implementation level of the objectives stipulated in the Joint Declaration on the Republic of Moldova–EU Mobility Partnership; present the current and planned implemented activities within the mobility partnership; assess existing mechanisms for implementation, cooperation and monitoring within the mobility partnership for their consolidation and improvement; set the perspective and opportunities for future cooperation among partners; identify the priorities for cooperation within other bilateral and multilateral platforms on migration and mobility at the regional and global levels; and present the first results of the mobility partnership evaluation process. In this context, two reunions in extended format were organized since 2012 for the Local Platform of Cooperation, in June 2012 and June 2013. The following topics were discussed within these reunions: the implementation progress of the RM–EU Mobility Partnership; mobility, legal migration and integration; the increased impact of migration and mobility on development; border management; readmission; identity and travel documents; combatting of illegal migration and trafficking in human beings; as well as aspects related to monitoring and evaluating the mobility partnership. As well, in November 2012, the fifth High-Level Reunion of the RM–EU Mobility Partnership was organized in Brussels, which discussed the results of the activities carried out during the year and revised the possibility to launch new initiatives. Promotion of legal migration, support of academic mobility, mainstreaming migration in development and combating illegal migration were just some of the areas of priority interest identified by partners. Subsequently, on 10 December 2013, the sixth High-Level Reunion of the RM–EU Mobility Partnership was organized in Brussels, where the parties to the mobility partnership took note of the results and activities performed during

the year in different areas: legal migration, academic mobility, mainstreaming migration in development, consolidation of relations with the diaspora, and combating irregular migration; in addition, future initiatives were revised. The reunion also tackled the results of the post-pilot exercise for evaluating the RM–EU Mobility Partnership, as a tool of the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, and approved the online electronic database Mobility Partnership Scoreboard.

The **technical working group** created in June 2010 within the IOM project “Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the RM–EU Mobility Partnership”, which coordinated the activities related to the development of the Republic of Moldova EMP, continues to be operational; the members of this group are actively involved in developing and implementing the EMP’s second edition. Currently, the activity of the technical working group is coordinated by the BMA, which took over this role from IOM Moldova after the end of the above-mentioned project.

The **Coordinating Council of People Originating from the Republic of Moldova and Residing Abroad**, established in February 2005, works as an advisory body to the Moldovan Government. Its purpose is the promotion, preservation, development and expression of the ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of Moldovans residing abroad. The council comprises Moldovan Government officials and representatives of Moldovan diaspora associations. For the last time, this council was convened in October 2012, within the Fifth Diaspora Congress. The meeting was attended by 36 representatives of the Moldovan diaspora from 16 countries, of whom 34 were members of the Coordinating Council (according to Government Decision No. 834, dated 10 November 2011) and 5 persons from other institutions. The meeting agenda included such issues as: (a) approval of the nominal composition of the coordinating council and the role of its members according to Government Decision No.834; (b) the modality of activity and communication of the coordinating council; (c) discussions over proposals regarding the action plan of the coordinating council for 2013 and 2014; (d) and discussions regarding the proposal for establishing working groups within the coordinating council. As a result of this session, five thematic working groups were created in the following areas: (a) social protection; (b) culture, youth, education and science; (c) justice and human rights; (d) return and reintegration of Moldovan migrants; (e) economy and entrepreneurial environment. Members of these groups from the diaspora were actively consulted and involved in developing draft normative acts and policy documents related to the diaspora.

Nevertheless, in spite of the already-existing solid institutional arrangement, the Republic of Moldova needs further improvement of the inter-institutional coordination mechanism (which could be developed eventually through well-organized and adjusted assistance) to develop a more efficient institutional framework and policies for migration management.

C.4. Programme framework

In line with Government Decision No. 12, dated 19 January 2010, the State Chancellery functions as the National Authority for Foreign Assistance Coordination, responsible for coordinating the process of programming, monitoring and evaluating foreign assistance provided to the Republic of Moldova by its development partners. In particular, the General

Division for Policy and Foreign Assistance Coordination and Reform of the Central Public Administration (the national coordination unit) ensure, inter alia: (a) provision to the public administration authorities of the necessary support to make the mechanism of foreign assistance sectoral coordination more efficient; (b) monitoring and evaluation of foreign assistance, so as to maximize its impact on the economic development of the country; and (c) transparency assurance of the foreign assistance and implementation of the communication policy, together with the donor community and civil society. (SC, 2013)

To carry out these tasks, the State Chancellery makes use of (SC, 2013):

- (a) The Information System for Assistance Management, to register and process the information regarding the assistance initiatives and the flows of assistance provided to the country;
- (b) The sectoral coordination councils, for managing and monitoring the efficiency of foreign assistance.

The National Authority for Foreign Assistance Coordination uses the information provided by the sectoral coordination councils to define the priorities for foreign assistance, which should be approved by the Interministerial Committee for Strategic Planning. The State Chancellery has an Aid Management Platform (AMP), which provides complete and up-to-date data about technical assistance provided to the Republic of Moldova and includes lists of technical assistance projects in different areas implemented in the country. The binding description elements for the projects included in the AMP are the following: name of the project (in Romanian and English), the de facto start and closing days of the project, project status, levels of implementation, financing information, roles of institutions and classification criteria. Optionally, the AMP may also have data about the objectives and results of the project, the signed memorandum, project budget and special cases. The new projects should be included in the AMP by the responsible institutions, immediately after signing and approval of the project. Donors should update the AMP with new information on a quarterly basis. The State Chancellery is the authority responsible for validating any change made in the AMP.

As regards foreign assistance provided to the Republic of Moldova in 2012, the social protection sector registered the highest weight in the expenditures of the national public budget (about 35%). To achieve the objective of equitable social protection, the joint activities of public authorities and donors in 2012 focused mainly on: (a) citizens' access to qualitative social services and support for vulnerable persons; (b) continuing the process of development and implementation of social programmes covering measures and tools meant to ensure higher living standards and improve the quality of life; (c) protection of the population from negative phenomena such as unemployment, poverty and brain drain. The EU, the World Bank, the Czech Agency for Development, UNICEF, USAID and IOM are active foreign partners supporting social protection assurance. In this respect, 16 projects amounting to a total of about EUR 46 million are currently being implemented. (SC, 2013)

The implementation of the migration and development component of the RM–EUMoldova Mobility Partnership continued in 2012 with ample information of the population

about the different migration modalities, as well as increasing the competency of MFAEI consular officers the area of the diaspora. At the same time, the World Bank provided support to launch the first stage of the development of a visa information system; by the end of 2012, the World Bank selected a company to implement the system. (SC, 2013)

The area of labour migration focused on improving the legislative framework and adjusting other legislative acts according to legal norms. Hence, changes were made to the Law on Labour Migration and the Law on Foreigners' Regime. These amendments – which also provided for removing the quota on labour immigration – will contribute to creating a more efficient normative framework to regulate the relations between the stakeholders involved in the labour migration process and set an empowering climate for foreign investors. At the same time, the Pilot Project on Labour Force Mobility carried out services in the area of labour force training and employment and in the improvement of the management of qualified labour force migration flows between Italy and the Republic of Moldova. The basic activities focused on the organization and implementation of linguistic-vocational courses. (SC, 2013)

The “Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Minors and Young Adults” Project, which focuses on preventing trafficking and is implemented by the Austrian Government and European Return Fund, has contributed to assisting a number of beneficiaries and creating an inter-institutional committee for monitoring the implementation of project activities. (SC, 2013)

The Governments of Denmark, Norway and Switzerland have contributed to combatting trafficking in human beings, preventing risks and identifying victims and potential victims, by developing individual plans for rehabilitation, reintegration and complex assistance for trafficking victims through the NRS. (SC, 2013)

Starting 2007, a total of around 200 actions afferent to migration have been implemented or are currently under implementation. Project objectives vary from efficient governance of labour migration and its skills to protection and empowerment of domestic violence and trafficking victims. A considerable part of actions related to migration were and are implemented under mobility partnerships; 85 initiatives related to migration were and are implemented in different areas, from the Republic of Moldova's Migration Profile to schemes/projects promoting circular migration.⁴³

The following are among the key donors: the European Commission, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Nations Human Security Trust Fund, USAID, SOROS Foundation, Czech Agency for Development, Austrian Agency for Development, Swedish Agency for International Development, Government of Cyprus, Government of Denmark, Government of Finland, Government of Germany, Government of Greece, Government of Italy, Government of Japan, Government of Norway, Government of Romania, Government of Switzerland, Sorooptimist International (Norway) and Lakarmissionen (Sweden). The most important partners for implementing the projects and programmes related to migration are: IOM Moldova, the International Labour Organization, United Nations Office

⁴³ For more information about the mobility partnership, visit www.mfa.gov.md/mobility-partnership-en.

of the High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Population Fund – Moldova, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) – Moldova, European Investment Fund and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

The following initiatives may be mentioned among the migration-related projects implemented during the reference period:

- (a) “Enhancing the Moldovan Government’s Capacities in Diaspora Engagement”, financed through the IOM Development Fund and implemented by IOM Moldova;
- (b) “Strengthening the Link between Migration and Development: Testing an Integrated Service Provider to Moldovan Migrants and Their Communities”, financed by EU and implemented by the International Agency for Source Country Information;
- (c) “Strengthening the Capacities of the Permanent Secretariat of the National Committee for Combatting Trafficking in Persons in the Republic of Moldova”, financed by the United States of America and implemented by IOM Moldova;
- (d) The joint UNDP/IOM/UN Women pilot programme “Mainstreaming of Migration into Development in Moldova”, financed by SDC;
- (e) “Supporting the Republic of Moldova in implementing the EU–Moldova Visa Liberalisation Action Plan”, financed by the EU and implemented by the ICMPD;
- (f) “Strengthening Migration Management Capacities in the Republic of Moldova”, financed by the EU and implemented by the Special Programme for the Employment of Students.

After analysing the performance of foreign assistance provided via projects implemented in 2012 in the areas of competence of central and specialized public authorities, it was concluded that the largest number of projects was reported by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (27), followed by the Ministry of Environment (22), and the Ministry of Health (20). The majority of the projects evaluated by the public institutions were considered to be very good or good. Almost 94 per cent of respondents stated that their projects achieved the objectives in line with the planned outcomes. The majority of public institutions declared that their projects contributed to the development of the sector in line with national priorities. As well, 94 per cent of respondents participated in project design. (SC, 2013)

Donor coordination mechanisms. By the end of 2009, donor coordination mechanisms had been established to improve coordination among development partners and between development partners and the Government. At the national level, the key development partner coordination mechanism is the monthly regular donors’ meeting, organized to improve coordination and harmonization between the Moldovan Government and its partners.

The Partnership Principles Implementation Plan, signed in March 2010 by the Moldovan Government, the World Bank and other relevant donors (the EU, UN and other bilateral donors), sets out a more formal process for establishing the sectoral foreign assistance councils (also called “sector coordination boards”), an advisory body – the Joint Partnership Council – that reflects the partnership between the Government, civil society (including the private sector) and development partners. The Joint Partnership Council is co-chaired by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova and a representative of the external aid partners. In the context of the migration phenomenon, it is worth mentioning the foreign assistance coordination council in the area of labour and social protection, chaired by the MLSPF, and co-chaired by a representative of the donor organization active in the area, such as the Department of International Development (United Kingdom), Sida, SDC, IOM, the World Bank, USAID, OSCE, Austrian Development Cooperation/Austrian Development Agency, Grace to You, Turkish International Cooperation Agency, the UN Office in the Republic of Moldova, UN agencies, among others.⁴⁴

For the purpose of improving the coordination of the joint activities of the MLSPF and donor organizations, a sectoral foreign assistance council was launched in the area of ensuring gender equality between women and men. The MLSPF, in collaboration with UN Women and the Centre for Partnership Development, organized training sessions about gender policy issues; developed a set of legislative amendments related to ensuring equal opportunities to women and men; and initiated the process for approving these changes. With the support of EU specialists from the Assistance and Protection Centre, and those from the MLSPF, the multidisciplinary teams were visited to monitor specific cases, as well as to assess the extension of the NRS for the protection and assistance for trafficking victims and potential victims at the community level. (SC, 2013)

In July 2011 the leaders attending the Ministerial Meeting of the Community of Democracies, organized in Vilnius, launched a new mechanism for supporting developing democracies – the Democracy Partnership Challenge (DPC). As a result of the participation of the MFAEI in this conference, the Republic of Moldova was selected, together with Tunis, as a “regional model of democracy” and included in the assistance project of the Community of Democracies–DPC (MFAEI, 2011). In 2012 and 2013, thematic working groups were created in the Republic of Moldova encompassing representatives of governmental institutions, civil society and the private sector, working together to provide support and expertise in the key areas identified by the Government of the Republic of Moldova. As one of the five priorities stipulated in the application of the Republic of Moldova to the DPC refers to migration and border management, a working group was created comprising donors in the area of migration, co-chaired by the Embassy of Romania and the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in the Republic of Moldova, and hosted by the US Embassy in the Republic of Moldova. From 2012 to 2013, five sessions were convened for this working group, which identified and discussed priorities in the areas of migration, border management and combatting trafficking in human beings; these areas would be the focus of the efforts of the country’s development partners within the DPC. Although the activity of this working group sometimes duplicates the activity of the sectoral foreign assistance coordination council chaired by the MIA, these meetings allow deeper discussion of the different areas of foreign support, which provide

⁴⁴ Specifically, MLSPF Order No. 060, dated 17 February 2010, on establishing the Foreign Assistance Coordination Council in the area of labour and social protection (with the respective annexes).

some countries not present in the above-mentioned sectoral council the possibility to participate (via video conference). The final goal of this working group of donors within the DPC is to discuss in detail the current assistance initiatives in the Republic of Moldova, so as to avoid the duplication of foreign aid and to identify some new areas of intervention, as the case may be.

In 2013 the Government (SC, 2013) continued joint actions for planning foreign assistance; implementing and assessing the performance indicators set forth by the Global Partnership; and improving the process of information exchange via the new platform of AMP data management. To continue the improvement of the efforts for streamlining the assistance for development, the State Chancellery envisages a number of commitments for the future, such as:

- (a) Aligning foreign assistance with national development priorities and harmonizing the foreign aid programming cycle with the budgetary and policy planning cycles;
- (b) Ensuring transparency and publishing relevant information for foreign aid management, as well as revising and adjusting the information platform on foreign assistance;
- (c) Re-thinking of interministerial coordination, ensuring united and efficient dialog platforms;
- (d) Further supporting and fostering the institutional capacities of the ministries depending on the performance levels achieved.

Part D. Key Findings, Policies' Implications and Recommendations

Section D.1. summarizes the main findings of Parts A, B and C revealed by available data on the current migration and development situation.

Section D.2. presents some key recommendations for policymakers to improve the current migration management situation based on an assessment of the current situation.

Section D.3. continues from the previous section and presents an array of recommendations towards mainstreaming migration into the development policies of the country.

Section D.4. identifies existing data gaps and offers recommendations and possible strategies to improve migration statistics and the overall evidence base on migration.

D.1. Main findings on migration and development nexus

This section summarizes the main findings revealed by available data on the current migration and development situation.

Background. The migration phenomenon in the Republic of Moldova continues to be characterized more by the emigration of the country's population and less by the immigration of people from abroad. The current efforts of the State are focused on managing the phenomenon, including by implementing institutional reforms in this respect and via close cooperation with the European Union.

As the economic crisis engulfed Europe and migrants' stay conditions became tougher in the Russian Federation (one of the main countries of destination for Moldovans), tackling the problems of migrants returning home became absolutely necessary. Back home, former migrants may contribute to the development of their country of origin through active involvement in the labour market or by launching their own businesses; establishing business links between the country of origin and the country of destination; transferring skills, knowledge and technologies accumulated abroad, not to mention ideas, beliefs and living standards, among others.

According to the different studies performed in this area, the main push factors for Moldovan migrants are economic in nature: lack of jobs and/or unattractive salaries offered in the labour market in the Republic of Moldova.

Current migration patterns. The migration situation was analysed based on a number of and statistical administrative data submitted by different data providers.

A series of administrative data from the SE SIRC "Registru" enables the analysis of the situation of authorized emigration, including deregistration from the place of residence before leaving the country. Based on these data, it was estimated that 99,300 persons

were living abroad in 2012. Authorized emigration registered a stable downtrend, with the decrease rate reaching 56 per cent in 2012. The phenomenon is more pronounced in urban areas than rural areas, with more women emigrating in an authorized manner than men. It is mainly trained young people with specialized secondary or higher education who leave the country. The main countries of destination are Ukraine and the Russian Federation, which cumulate almost 70 per cent of the total number of emigrants. Belarus, the Czech Republic, Germany, Israel and the United States are other countries with significant shares of emigrants from the Republic of Moldova.

An important source providing the possibility to estimate the volume of international emigration is State border crossing information from the BPD, specifically, the duration of a person's stay abroad. According to this source, by the end 2012, some 330,000 persons had been outside the country for more than 12 months, of whom 65 per cent were aged 15 to 44 years old, with women exceeding the number of men by 14 per cent. An uptrend was registered in 2012 as compared to 2008 in the number of children who had been residing abroad for 12 months or more.

The data of the MFAEI, obtained from the diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Moldova, reveal that by the end of 2012, around 756,000 Moldovans were staying abroad, regardless of the duration of their stay in the countries of destination. According to these data, about 60 per cent were in the Russian Federation and about 20 per cent were in Italy.

Temporary migration for labour purposes, with the intention to return home, is estimated based on the LFS data. Survey data reveal that about 300,000 persons were working abroad at any time within the 2007–2012 period. The profile of temporary migration is different from that of authorized emigration. It was mainly the rural population who migrated for labour purposes during this period (about 73%). In addition, the masculine nature of this type of migration is rather pronounced, with the number of men exceeding that of women by 80 per cent. As with MFAEI data, the main countries of destination overall (i.e. men and women) were the Russian Federation and Italy, but the sex distribution is different: For almost 80 per cent of men, the country of destination was the Russian Federation, followed by Italy, with 7 per cent; in the case of women, the distribution was more uniform, with 44 per cent going to the Russian Federation and 36 per cent to Italy.

As for the age distribution of temporary migrants, a significant prevalence may be noted for those aged 15 to 44 years old, who cumulate about 78 per cent of the total number. Half of these migrants are persons with secondary education (lyceum and gymnasium), and about 40 per cent have specialized or vocational secondary education.

The National Employment Agency mentions an uptrend in the number of persons working abroad with legal work contracts; nevertheless, this number remains rather small. The main countries of destination of Moldovan migrants working under legal contracts are Israel and the United Arab Emirates.

As for migration for study purposes, data reveal that the number of Moldovans studying abroad increased by 2.2 times within the 2007–2012 period; about 93 per cent of

them were studying in Romania and 2 per cent each in Bulgaria, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Because of the limited number of slots for studies abroad provided to the Republic of Moldova under the international agreements, the number of Moldovans studying abroad, according to data from the Ministry of Education, is relatively small. The number of Moldovans who study abroad not by virtue of any international agreement and of those who do not notify the Ministry of Education, is not known, but is probably higher.

Involuntary emigration registered a significant decrease by 2012 as compared to 2007. The number of Moldovan asylum-seekers abroad was 909 in 2007, gradually decreasing to 441 persons in 2012. During the same period, there was an increase in the number of persons who obtained refugee status abroad. Nevertheless, downtrends were attested and confirmed by the *growth rate of the number of Moldovan citizens registered as asylum-seekers abroad* and by the *number of Moldovan citizens registered and recognized as refugees abroad* – the value for these indicators decreased during the reference period.

Repatriation. During the 2007–2012 reference period, the annual number of repatriated persons has evolved differently. However, this number significantly lower in 2012, registering a negative growth of about –8 per cent. As well, the number of repatriated children declined during the reference period, from 10.3 per cent registered in 2007, 4.6 per cent in 2012.

A positive dynamic was registered for readmissions to the Republic of Moldova. After an increase registered during the 2007–2011 period of about nine times, the number decreased by 2012, denoting either the legalization of Moldovans or the observance of the stay regime of the country they reside in.

Starting 2011, data on repatriated persons have been presented by two institutions, specifically, the BMA (evidence of foreigners repatriation) and SE “Registru” (evidence of Moldovan citizens repatriation).

Preventing and combating trafficking in human beings. The NRS⁴⁵ is the main framework for cooperation and coordination of the efforts undertaken by active stakeholders in the area of combatting trafficking in human beings. The activities within the NRS are carried out through the multidisciplinary teams, which have national coverage. The efficiency of this system is also confirmed by the increased number of persons identified via the NRS. Statistical data show that in 2012, 18 THB victims were identified – 5.5 times more than the number identified in 2007; the number THB potential victims reported by NGOs for 2012 was 1,214 persons, as compared to only 52 persons reported in 2007. Women represent about 73 per cent and children over 10 per cent of the total number of persons identified as THB victims.

Resident foreign population. By the end of 2012, the total number of foreigners (including Stateless persons) staying in the republic of Moldova was 20,191 persons (0.6 per cent of the total population). The majority of foreigners originate from Ukraine, the Russian Federation, Israel, Romania, Turkey and several other countries. The annual number of foreigners immigrating in the Republic of Moldova increased from 2,074 persons in 2007 to

⁴⁵ The NRS was launched in the Republic of Moldova in 2006 with the support of IOM, external donors and civil society.

3,116 persons in 2012. It should be mentioned that the growth rate of 14.6 per cent in 2012 is higher compared to 2011.

The prevalence of emigration over immigration influences the demographic development of the country, characterized by the continuous contraction of the population and amplification of the process of population ageing. It should be mentioned that over the last two years some stability was noted in relation to the population size, as estimated by the NBS. As well, some stability is observed for other demographic indicators, such as the natural growth and net migration rates. The migration phenomenon is more pronounced in rural areas as compared to the urban areas; at the same time, stable uptrends are noted for the urban population alongside reduction/stabilization of the total population of the country, hence pointing to internal migration from villages to cities, especially among the economically active population.

Labour migration from the country has an important and significant role from an economic point of view. The increase in number of the persons who left abroad for work has resulted in a significant increase of the amount of transfers from abroad sent by individuals, influencing thus the main macroeconomic indicators. The constant growth of the GDP is mainly attributed to the revenues sent back to the country by Moldovan migrants working abroad.

Remittances represent an important source for population to escape from poverty. About 22 per cent of the country's households benefited from remittances-based financial resources in 2012, with a share of almost 29.5 per cent in rural areas. According to LFS data, over 80 per cent of migrants send money to their families on monthly basis, with half of them sending amounts over USD 500 monthly.

The incomes of Moldovan households are considerably influenced by remittances; thus, the respective share accounts for 56.9 per cent in case of the households benefiting from remittances and over 60 per cent of rural households benefiting from remittances. If receiving remittances, the share of households which would be under the poverty level in 2012 would be 27.6 per cent, or 35.3 per cent – in rural areas.

The indicators characterizing the labour force market are continuously deteriorated. During the 2007–2012 period, the number of the economically active population decreased constantly by 99,000 persons or 7.5 per cent, the activity rate dropped by 4.1 percentage points, the share of the population under the working age decreased from 19 per cent to 17 per cent, the share of persons beyond the working age increased from 15 per cent to 17 per cent. If migration of the young population continues, a continuous contraction of the working-age population, with all the negative effects associated with this phenomenon, may be expected.

The studies performed in the respective area reveal some trends for migrants to return home to work. At the same time, the returned migrants encounter a lot of reintegration problems, caused by the lack of jobs and small salaries. Launching a start-up is rather difficult due to different reasons, including insufficiency of financial resources and lack of information. In such conditions, a considerable part of migrants chose to re-emigrate.

The **negative social impacts** generated by migration are confirmed by a number of studies performed in the area. One such impact is the deficit of personnel in such areas as health and education due to the emigration of qualified staff working in these sectors. It was acknowledged that migration reduces poverty, but it also has negative social effects on children and elderly people left behind. The survey carried out in 2012 by the MLSPP registered 21,600 children with both parents abroad and 83,600 thousand children with one of parents abroad.

Labour migration affects the **sustainability of the national social insurance system**. Being outside the country, a significant part of the economically active population does not participate in the system, thus leading to an increased burden on the economically active population in the national economy. The phenomenon has already induced a deficit in the State social insurance budget, which had to be compensated over the last years from the State budget. As well, the lack of the cumulative pylon of the social insurance system and the narrow package of benefits provided by the current mechanism of individual insurance, make participation in the system unattractive for migrants. Thus, the non-participation of current migrants in the system will be reflected upon their mid- and long-term return in the impossibility to obtain some benefits within the system, and this will directly contribute to increased burden on the social insurance system. Ensuring the minimum social guarantees for Moldovan labour migrants abroad and finding adequate solutions for when they return home is a timely concern for the State. In this context a number of social security agreements have been signed over the last years or negotiated with different countries of destination, with contribution-based principles included.

Institutional framework. A number of State institutions are involved directly or indirectly in the migration management processes, in line with their areas of activity and competence. The Bureau for Diaspora Relations was created to streamline the activities in communication and collaboration with Moldovan migrants abroad and for coordinating policies in the area. Focal points (at the level of deputy ministers and deputy directors) were appointed in ministries and other central administrative authorities to be responsible for promoting and implementing State policy related to the diaspora, working in close cooperation and coordination with the Bureau for Diaspora Relations.

The Bureau of Migration and Asylum was attributed new duties when it appointed as the institution responsible for the subsequent development of the EMP Report.

The national legal and regulatory framework has registered significant progress in establishing a comprehensive base for an efficient system of migration management. According to EC experts' opinion, the legislative and policy framework on preventing and counteracting trafficking in human beings is consolidated and aligned with international standards.

Activities continue in view of signing bilateral agreements in the area of labour migration so as to ensure social and labour security for Moldovan migrants abroad. **Policy framework.** There have been developed and enforced State policies and strategies in different areas related to migration: mobility at the border, reintegration and return of migrants, investment of remittances into development, SME development, combatting irregular migration and

trafficking in human beings. Coordination and assurance of migration policy and strategy coherence is carried out via an impressive institutional arrangement. Nevertheless, it is necessary to further improve the mechanism for inter-institutional coordination for a more efficient management of migration.

D.2. Recommendation on migration management

Based on the evaluation of the current situation, this section will present some key recommendations for policymakers to improve the current management of migration.

During the period of 2008–2012, being recognized as a political phenomenon with all its positive and negative effects, migration became a key element in developing national, sectoral and intersectoral policies.

The mechanisms related to foreigners' immigration became the most visible. They have ensured, to a large extent, the transposition of a number of EU directives in the area. This fact has contributed to making more efficient the bilateral dialogue among EU Member States in migration-related areas (occupational, social, educational, etc.).

At the same time, however, the following still needs attention:

- (1) Building the capacities of the competent authorities from the country to promote and correlate the principles and procedures for admission into the country and documentation of foreigners in the country (economic and non-economic migrants) with the country's economic realities, applying a utilitarian approach;
- (2) Continuously improving the normative framework on the selective admission of foreigners immigrating for work purposes, so as to:
 - (a) Cope with the deficit in highly qualified personnel in:
 - (i) areas that lack qualified local labour force;
 - (ii) economic sectors, which are the priority ones for the sustainable development of the country and which don't have the necessary local qualified resources;
 - (b) Facilitate admission and stay of foreign investors in the Republic of Moldova, as well as of the persons who manage foreign investments in economic areas with a multiplicative effect.

It should be noted that the proactive attraction of foreign investments through migration policies follows from a number of international examples. The European and Northern-American States' practices include mechanisms for facilitating the admission and documentation of foreigners investing in business in some pre-established economic areas (rural areas, and/or development of multiplicative economy in correlation with general conditions) or creating new jobs;

- (3) Development of mechanisms for the recognition of foreigners' professional qualifications in areas needing qualified personnel;
- (4) Promotion of higher education institutions in the Republic of Moldova for the purpose of attracting foreigners to study in the country and to improve the image of the higher education institutions of the country;
- (5) Improvement of legal and institutional tools, ensuring the non-discrimination principle for foreigners staying in the country, avoiding any unjustified discriminatory restrictions based on any reason, such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic characteristics or health condition, religion or beliefs, among others;
- (6) Promotion of a legality climate for foreigners' admission and stay in the Republic of Moldova by increasing the information level of potential migrants who would like to come to the Republic of Moldova for short periods of time (for study, work, etc.).

A special area in migration management refers to foreigners' integration policies promoted in the State. Although the regulatory framework adopted in this area in the Republic of Moldova is recognized as being innovative in the CIS zone, as well as for a number of Western European countries, its implementation is just in the initial stages and needs more attention to ensuring correlation with the needs pointed out.

The rapid development of foreigners' immigration into the country did not allow their pre-selection from the third countries, similar countries, or countries closed by their cultural, civilization or religious identities – a fact that would exclude integration deficiencies. EMP data show that over 20,000 foreigners stay either permanently or temporarily in the Republic of Moldova.

Hence, it is important to develop some long-term policies for mutual accommodation for all foreigners (beneficiaries of a form of protection, immigrants, persons born outside the country, and other categories of persons) and the inhabitants of the Republic of Moldova.

The necessary mechanisms were developed in 2012 for cooperation between the State entities responsible for foreigners' accommodation and integration, guaranteeing their access to sociocultural and linguistic accommodation programmes by ensuring the necessary allocations in the State budget.

At the same time, taking into account the special importance of foreigners' integration for social and civic cohesion in the country, it is necessary to actively support foreigners and Stateless persons staying legally in the Republic of Moldova, ensuring their participation in the economic, social and cultural life of the country. This objective will be supported by increasing the awareness of public officials, civil society and foreigners about the importance of the integration process.

Although public authorities have recognized the importance of integration policies by defining the public funds necessary for the implementation of such policies, they are not enough to cover the entire range of possible needs and all categories of foreigners. Thus, it is necessary to determine the categories of foreigners who may benefit from a facilitated treatment in this area, for instance, vulnerable categories of persons, beneficiaries of certain forms of protection, unaccompanied minors, women, among others.

The implementation of integration policies needs objective monitoring by establishing some sets of indicators in all the relevant areas, as well as collecting, processing and analysing the obtained data.

Another challenge would be to develop and implement mechanisms for the practical implementation of the integration programmes, with the participation of local public authorities' representatives, the business sector and civil society.

The emigration area, which benefited from most of the attention within the surveys and comprehensive approaches when developing State policies, continues to prioritize the aspects related to the situation of the family members left behind, especially the elderly and children.

The increase in the number of minors left by their parents to look for a job abroad is really alarming. The data obtained in different surveys reveal reduced levels of socialization, increased school drop-out rate, reduced levels of training and increased levels of juvenile delinquency for this category of children.

The above-mentioned problems need the proactive involvement of the State and the entire society; the establishment of stable mechanisms of community or social partnerships to prevent the phenomenon; strengthening of preventive mechanisms in the country, as well as the development of re-socialization mechanisms for the affected group within the population. Unfortunately, there is no coherence between the efforts undertaken by the authorities responsible for the different aspects of the given problem (local public authorities, MLSPF, Ministry of Education, MIA and others). In this respect, it is necessary to develop sustainable, efficient and diligent partnerships among all stakeholders, to fill in the existing deficiencies in the necessary services at the community level, which would be in line with the needs of the children and youth from migrants' families. It is important to re-dimension the attitude of public authorities in relation to the given problem.

It is also important to continue existing joint initiatives with countries of destination, such as the Russian Federation and Ukraine, which are meant to ensure circular migration, migrant workers' return and reintegration into the Moldovan labour market.

Fostering the temporary return of highly qualified co-nationals and facilitating brain circulation will ensure the transfer of qualifications and innovations in certain sectors.

Moldovan authorities paid special attention to link-setting between diaspora associations in different countries and the mother country, including by establishing a specialized authority in the area, namely, the Bureau for Diaspora Relations (DRB, under the

State Chancellery of the Republic of Moldova). Nevertheless, it is important to further support activities for the coordination and support of the DRB in organizing different activities with Moldovan communities and diaspora organizations abroad.

Although the Republic of Moldova has already created a solid institutional framework in the areas of migration management, it is still necessary to continue developing migration management capacities. Hence, the development of subsequent policies should be based on comprehensive and well-structured data, and should take into account the specific interests and objectives of the country, referring to the different aspects of the general public policy, such as occupational, demographic, circular migration promotion, migrants' return and reintegration, among others.

To achieve this goal, it would be necessary to support and build the capacities of public institutions in ensuring the development and implementation of policies related to migration issues (e.g. through increased material resources, training workshops, elimination of bureaucratic impediments, increased consideration to local practice and expertise, avoidance of excessive reliance on foreign experts' interventions, etc.).

In this context, there is an increased role for structures to ensure coordination, as they should have sufficient trained human resources, including in modern areas of activity and communication.

D.3. Recommendations on migration mainstreaming into development policies

This section presents a set of recommendations on how to mainstream migration in the country's development policies.

Migration mainstreaming in development processes is envisaged in some long-term policies of the country.

The main objectives in implementing the National Strategy on Migration and Asylum (2011–2020) are set in the strategy itself, as well as in the National Action Plan for 2011–2015. These documents establish a link between migration and asylum and the general framework of the country's development policies.

The new development strategy of the Republic of Moldova – “National Development Strategy: Moldova 2020: Seven solutions for the Republic of Moldova” – also contributes towards correlating the sector strategies implemented by different line ministries.

In this context, it is worth mentioning the foreign policy of the Moldovan Government, as well as the country's commitments, which are reflected in such documents as the Joint Declaration regarding the Mobility Partnership between the Republic of Moldova and the EU and the National Program for implementing the EU–Republic of Moldova Action Plan in the area of visa regime liberalization (approved in 2011). The National Program, due to the comprehensive approach used by the migration management module, in line with

the EU directives, guided the cardinal legislative and institutional reform in the migration management area.

At the same time, the dynamics and magnitude of the migration processes during the reported period need to correct and include some specific elements in the development policies.

Taking into account the continuous processes of population number decrease and population ageing increase, it is necessary to:

- (a) Ensure better management of the circular migration processes;
- (b) Ensure the monitoring of returned migrants, especially of persons encountering problems; to study the problems which emerge during their social, psychological, occupational and educational reintegration. Hence, it would be necessary to further develop data collection regarding persons who have temporarily went abroad (information about temporary emigration to work or study, by age and level of education, in dynamics), to ensure the correlation of information and the analysis of pre- and post-emigration data, and to develop adequate policies;
- (c) Develop further on aspects related to the country's demographic security, which implies including in the country's long-term policies those aspects related to the social protection of families and children left behind, and developing demographic security policies based on the monitoring of selected indicators, including the ones established in the EMP Analytical Report;
- (d) Improve the quality of statistical and administrative data related to authorized emigration, taking into account indicators pertaining to age, sex and area of residence of persons who have left.

For the purpose of ensuring the necessary mechanisms for implementing the necessary policies for child and family protection during the parents' migration period, it would be necessary to ensure the periodic collection of data on the number of children left behind, the number of marriages and divorces in migrants' families in dynamics, and the number of children born in migrants' families abroad.

As the Republic of Moldova has opted for the integration processes and liberalization of the visa regime with EU, special focus is placed on the existence and development of migration control tools to improve the migration management process. In this context, priority is given to the development of tools to collect statistical and nominal information on migration, to correlate the notions and definitions used in the national legislation with those used in EU legislation, especially Regulation 862 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection.

D.4. Recommendations on improving migration statistics and developing evidence-based policies

This section reveals the existing data gaps and provides recommendations and possible strategies for improving statistics on migration and the entire record-keeping of this phenomenon.

The efficient management of migration may be carried out only if policies and strategies are based on up-to-date information regarding migration flows. Hence, collection of reliable data (including for forecasting purposes) should be part of a comprehensive national policy in the migration area. As well, there is too little available information regarding such important topics as remittances, current and potential migrants' awareness about legal migration and return possibilities, and the magnitude of the brain-drain phenomenon.

Some underestimations/gaps still exist in relation to migration record-keeping in different areas. For instance, the Ministry of Education holds official data regarding the number of Moldovan citizens studying abroad based on international treaties, but there is no record-keeping about those who apply and get the opportunity to study abroad by themselves. Another problem lies in the record-keeping of left-behind children – a task divided among several ministries, which report different data that frequently are not correlated.

The following can be mentioned among the actions/strategies recommended for improving and generating migration data:

The Extended Migration Profile (EMP), rather perceived as a process and not as an output, represents a high potential for synergy with the processes of mainstreaming migration, so as to understand and use the data for informed policymaking and progress evaluation. The Government of the Republic of Moldova has approved the “List of Indicators and the Extended Migration Profile Template for the Republic of Moldova” on 25 August 2012. According to a government decision, the BMA, in cooperation with other relevant ministries and central public authorities, shall ensure the annual production and update of the EMP indicators, as well as the annual analytical report based on the List of the Indicators and the EMP Template for the Republic of Moldova.

The following is suggested in order to fulfil these objectives:

- (a) The compilation and updating of the EMP should be carried out in a sustainable way, channeling the EMP findings in policymaking. Hence it is recommended to develop an action plan/strategy for regular updating of the MP and further development of the MP exercise;
- (b) To solve the problem of inadequate data, it is necessary to build the capacities of state institutions (namely, NBS, SE “SIRC “Registru”, MIA, etc.), which are involved in collecting data at the national level;
- (c) There is a strong need for more constructive and active collaboration among the main producers of statistical data: the SE “SIRC “Registru” and NBS. It is important to mention as well the need for more active cooperation with the Border Police

Department in the area of statistics in relation to migrants' registration at border crossings.

- (d) The problem of an absent unified methodology for assessing and quantifying the migration process could be mitigated by adopting certain government acts which would create and introduce a unified application of rules and class definitions, segregated and disaggregated, alongside all the existing criteria, in line with the methodological approaches convened at the international level, as well as with the comparative statistical indicators, which cover a range of problems related to migration.
- (e) The data exchange with the countries of destination of Moldovan migrants is a concrete possibility for verifying the reliability of emigration data from the Republic of Moldova. Frequently, these data are not included in the annual statistics on migration; hence, it would be necessary to regularly request data from the countries concerned.
- (f) There is a need for well-targeted training for and technical cooperation between the institution and the national experts responsible for updating the EMP, including through "twinning" projects.

In the above-mentioned context, it is necessary to continue developing information assistance for national and local public authorities, as support for ensuring efficient management of migration and asylum.

Activities should continue in relation to building institutional capacities for collecting, aggregating and systematizing the data from the beneficiary for developing and implementing policies in the area of migration and asylum, as well as foreigners' integration.

For the given purpose, it is important to continue ensuring inter-institutional information activity, both on the horizontal and vertical axes, as well as at all the levels (national, regional, local) of all the competent authorities, so as to provide complex management of migration, coordinate joint activities and reduce risks.

There should be developed cooperation mechanisms for risk analysis, and for collecting and processing data; establishment, if needed, of some joint groups for investigation in new areas of activity; assurance of the access to existing and newly created databases; and the establishment of joint databases or rapid data exchange systems for public authorities.

It is important to develop mechanisms for joint planning (based on the cooperation protocols) of the inter-institutional cooperation based on joint understanding of risks and threats, especially the ones related to information exchange between authorities, and mediation of competence conflicts, among others.

Annexes

Annex I. Glossary of Terms

1. *Population* – all the inhabitants of a country or an area (province, city, urban area, etc.); number of inhabitants of a country or an area; de facto population in a country, area or region (based on the UN Glossary on Demographic Terms). Eurostat refers to the concept of usually resident population and includes all the inhabitants from a certain area as of 1 January of the year of reference (or, in some cases, as of 31 December of the previous year).
2. *Usual residence* – the place at which a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences for purposes of recreation, holiday, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimage or, by default, the place of legal or registered residence (EC Regulation No. 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection).
3. *Immigrant* – a person undertaking an immigration (involved in immigration process) (EC Regulation No. 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection).
4. *Immigration* – the action by which a person establishes his or her usual residence in the territory of another State for a period that is, or expected to be, of at least 12 months, having previously been usually resident in another State (EC Regulation No. 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection).
5. *Emigrant* – a person undertaking an emigration (involved in the emigration process) (Regulation (EC) No. 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection).
6. *Emigration* – the action by which a person, having previously been usually resident in the territory of a State, ceases to have his or her usual residence in that State for a period that is, or is expected to be, of at least 12 months (EC Regulation No. 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection).
7. *Net migration* – difference between entries or arrivals of immigrants and exits or departures of emigrants during the same period of time. It is called also “migration balance” (IOM, International Migration Law No. 25: Glossary on Migration).
8. *Citizenship* – legal bond between an individual and a State; it is acquired through either birth or naturalization, regardless if it is through declaration, option, marriage or any other means, in line with the national legislation.
9. *Alien* – a person who is not a national or does not hold the citizenship of a given State (EU).

10. *City* – administrative-territorial unit which is more developed than a village from an economic and a sociocultural point of view and hosting an urban population, with corresponding urban-husbandry, industrial and commercial structures; whose population is mainly involved in industry, public services and different areas of intellectual activity, and in the cultural and political life (Law No. 764-XV, dated 27 December 2001, on the administrative-territorial organization of the Republic of Moldova).
11. *Absolute poverty line* is calculated based on the food expenditures of the second, third and fourth deciles, adjusted to 2,282 kcal/person/day and adding to it the non-food expenditures (the weight for all the households from the Households Budget Survey).
12. *Share of population under the absolute poverty line* – number of persons living in households with expenditures per adult equivalent (scale 1:0.7:0.5) under the poverty line, as related to the total size of the population.
13. *Equivalent income* – total income of the household relative to its “equivalent size”, that is, taking into consideration the size and composition of the household, and being attributed to each member of the household (the total income of the household is reported to its equivalent size, using the so-called “equivalence scale” modified by OECD).
14. *Child* – any human being below the age of 18 years, unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).
15. *Longevity* is evaluated through life expectancy at birth.
16. *Level of education* is calculated as the weighted arithmetic average of the literacy rate (with a share of two thirds) and the gross enrolment rate at all the education levels (with a share of one third).
17. *Life standards* are assessed through GDP per capita, expressed in USD at purchasing power parity.
18. *Migrants’ remittances* represent transfers from abroad of monetary means and goods, with an impact on households’ incomes. They arise from the temporary or permanent movement of people to work in foreign economies, settling down for good in other States, as well as from inter-human relations: gifts, donations and inheritances. Remittances include cash and non-cash items that flow through either formal channels (such as via electronic wire) or informal channels (such as money or goods carried across borders) (IMF, *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position*, sixth ed., Appendix 5: Remittances)
19. *Local border traffic* – regular crossing of an external land border by border residents in order to stay in a border area, for social, cultural or substantiated economic reasons, or for family reasons, for a period not exceeding three months of uninterrupted stay since the day of the border crossing (EC Regulation No. 1931/2006).

20. *Asylum-seeker* – a third-country national or Stateless person who has made an application for asylum in respect of which a final decision has not yet been taken (Council Directive 2005/85/EC, of 1 December 2005, on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status),
21. *Refugee* – any third-country national, who, owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it (based on Article 1 of the UN Convention from 1951 relating to the Status of Refugees, as well as European Council Directive 2004/83/EC).
22. *Status of refugee* – a protection form, recognized by the Republic of Moldova, for the foreigner or the Stateless person who meets the conditions set forth in the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, signed in Geneva on 28 July 1951, as well as in the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 31 January 1967 (Law No. 270-XVI, dated 18 December 2008).
23. *Repatriation* – the personal right of a refugee, prisoner of war or a civil detainee to return to his or her country of nationality under specific conditions laid down in various international instruments (Geneva Convention, 1949 and Protocols, 1977; the Regulations Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land, annexed to the Fourth Hague Convention, 1907; human rights instruments; and customary international law).
24. *Confirmation of repatriation* – an official document issued by the competent authority for aliens, confirming the right to repatriation (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010, on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
25. *Readmission* – the action of a state to accept the re-entry of an individual (national, third-country national or Stateless person).
26. *Readmission agreement* – international agreements laying down mutual procedures for returning illegally staying non-nationals to their country of origin or the country they have transited through.
27. *Stateless person* – person who is neither a citizen of the Republic of Moldova nor a citizen of another State (Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova No. 1024, dated 2 June 2000)
28. *Statelessness* may result from different causes, including conflict of law, transfer of territory, laws regulating marriage, administrative practice, discrimination, missing registration of birth, de-nationalization (when a State cancels the nationality of an individual) and renunciation (when an individual renounces State protection).

29. *Naturalization* – the granting of citizenship upon request to persons lawfully and habitually resident in the territory of the Republic of Moldova, under the conditions set forth in the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova No. 1024, dated 2 June 2000.
30. *Foreign-born* – a person who was born outside of the country of the current usual residence, regardless of the person's citizenship. Guidelines for collecting data on international migration according to the article in Regulation 862/2007 and for collecting additional data on a voluntary basis: immigration, emigration, usually resident population and obtaining and losing citizenship.
31. *Country of birth* – country of residence (within current borders, if information is available) of the mother at the date of birth, if not possible, the country (within current borders, if information is available) where the birth occurred.
32. *Stay permit/ID for the Stateless* – an identification document attesting the right for legal stay in the territory of the Republic of Moldova (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010, on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
33. *Humanitarian protection* – a protection form recognized by the Republic of Moldova, provided to the foreigner or the stateless persons due to other reasons than the ones laid down in the Geneva Convention dated 28 July 1951 (Law No. 270, dated 18 December 2008, on asylum in the Republic of Moldova).
34. *Illegal stay* – presence on the territory of the Republic of Moldova of a foreigner who does not meet or does meet anymore the conditions for entry, stay or residence (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010, on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
35. *Illegal migrant* – someone who, owing to illegal entry or expiry of his or her visa, lacks legal status in a transit or host country; the term applies to migrants who infringe a country's admission rules and any other person not authorized to remain in the host country (IOM International Migration Law 25, Glossary on Migration)
36. *Expulsion* – an act by an authority of the State with the intention and with the effect of securing the removal of a person or persons (aliens or stateless persons) against their will from the territory of that State (IOM, *International Migration Law No. 25: Glossary on Migration*).
37. *Cancellation* – decision taken by the competent authority for foreigners against the alien if he/she does not meet the conditions set forth by the law or if it was established that some of the documents which served as basis for granting him/her the right to stay in the country are false (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010, on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
38. *Revocation* – decision taken by the competent authority for foreigners if it is established that the foreigner does not anymore meet the conditions for the right to stay in the country or if he/she does not respect the reason for which the respective right was provided, or if he/she infringed the customs regulations or the regulations related to the

State border (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010, on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).

39. *Return* – process of going back of a foreigner, through either voluntary execution of the return decision or forced execution of such a decision, to the country of origin, a transit country (in line with the readmission agreements), or to a third-country to which the foreigner decided to return voluntarily and in which he/she will be accepted.
40. *Return decision* – an administrative act of the competent authority for foreigners, establishing the stay of the foreigner as being illegal and obliging the foreigner to leave the territory of the Republic of Moldova within the set deadline (Law No. 200, dated 16 July, 2010, on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
41. *Declaring the foreigner an undesirable person* is a safety measure undertaken by the authority against a foreigner who has developed, is developing or in whose respect there are well-reasoned indices that he/she intend to develop activities which would endanger the national security or public order of the country (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010, on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
42. *Public custody* – a measure for restricting the freedom of movement (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010 on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
43. *Taking under public custody* – a measure for restricting the freedom of movement undertaken by a court against a foreigner who could not be returned within the deadline set forth in the present law, as well as against a foreigner who has been declared undesirable or whose expulsion has been decided by the court (Law No. 200, dated 16 July 2010 on foreigners' regime in the Republic of Moldova).
44. *Stable population* – number of persons with stable domicile on the respective territory, including the temporary absent persons.

N.B. The new definition will enter into force after the implementation of the Census of Population and Dwellings in the Republic of Moldova in 2014. Before 2014, the term "stable population" was used according to the definition used by the National Bureau of Statistics: number of stable population (resident population).

45. *Stock* – represents the statistical data measured by the end of the reference period (OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms).
46. *Flow* – represents the statistical data accumulated during the reference period (OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms).

Annex 2. Statistical Tables

Part A: Migration Trends

Table 1a. Annual number of international authorized emigrations by area of residence prior to departure, sex, age group and destination country

	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total emigrated	7,172	6,988	6,663	4,714	4,039	3,129
<i>Area of residence prior to leaving the Republic of Moldova</i>						
Urban	4,402	4,195	3,955	3,139	2,722	2,152
Rural	2,770	2,793	2,708	1,575	1,317	977
<i>Sex</i>						
Men	3,276	3,237	3,138	2,193	1,813	1,425
Women	3,896	3,751	3,525	2,521	2,226	1,704
<i>Age groups, years</i>						
0–4	1	1	281	199	219	138
5–9	1	4	319	232	200	146
10–14	45	75	303	229	161	130
15–19	401	414	413	276	236	212
20–24	939	910	775	481	374	252
25–29	1,246	1,228	966	600	475	300
30–34	1,008	947	818	517	389	303
35–39	665	692	570	386	342	265
40–44	495	510	398	306	233	204
45–49	479	489	402	270	203	164
50–54	497	438	404	277	275	182
55–59	536	453	365	296	300	223
60–64	249	235	244	230	223	232
65–69	264	201	138	121	109	116
70–74	169	194	126	126	127	107
75–79	100	106	82	78	91	85
80–84	50	67	39	61	52	38
85 and more	27	24	20	29	30	32
<i>Destination countries</i>						
Ukraine	2,663	3,163	2,952	2,227	1,827	1,360
Russian Federation	3,110	2,663	1,866	1,162	858	772
United States	695	588	899	523	538	245
Germany	253	195	264	220	179	218
Israel	140	137	278	232	204	198
Czech Republic	24	40	77	57	43	56
Belarus	187	122	125	100	74	48

	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Kazakhstan	20	14	31	33	27	29
Bulgaria	4	14	26	19	9	8
Italy	1	1	23	27	0	0
Others	75	51	122	114	280	195

Source: Ministry of Information Technology and Communications (MITC), via the State Enterprise Centre for State Information Resources (SE "Registru").

1. These figures count those who withdrew their residence registration and filed a declaration of long-term emigration. The EMP 2005–2010 edition used the concept of international "documented" emigration. Data on authorized emigrations of foreigners is provided by the Bureau of Migration and Asylum. Data on authorized emigrations of Moldovan citizens is provided by the SE "Registru."
2. Figures for 2007 and 2008 do not include children who emigrated with their parents (in particular, those included in the passport of one of the parents).

Table 1b. Number of Moldovan citizens abroad, by duration of stay abroad, sex and wide age group, at the end of 2011 and 2012*

Duration	Sex	Total	Number of persons, by age group (in years)				
			0–14	15–29	30–44	45–59	60 and over
2011							
Total	Both sexes	780,735	43,601	250,779	276,485	166,696	43,174
	Men	366,461	22,118	126,198	132,212	69,854	16,079
	Women	414,274	21,483	124,581	144,273	96,842	27,095
Until 3 months	Both sexes	207,342	8,259	70,711	69,708	49,014	9,650
	Men	106,681	4,186	39,021	38,096	22,213	3,165
	Women	100,661	4,073	31,690	31,612	26,801	6,485
From 3 months until 1 year	Both sexes	265,914	21,664	91,309	91,404	53,221	8,316
	Men	144,759	10,960	44,572	38,790	17,859	2,578
	Women	151,155	10,704	46,737	52,614	35,362	5,738
From 1 year until 3 years	Both sexes	151,839	9,851	51,804	54,351	28,166	7,667
	Men	68,204	5,027	24,304	24,689	11,381	2,803
	Women	83,635	4,824	27,500	29,662	16,785	4,864
From 3 years and more	Both sexes	155,640	3,827	36,955	61,022	36,295	17,541
	Men	76,817	1,945	18,301	30,637	18,401	7,533
	Women	78,823	1,882	18,654	30,385	17,894	10,008
2012							
Total	Both sexes	820,222	53,137	253,293	289,465	174,616	49,711
	Men	384,169	27,024	126,936	138,608	73,154	18,447
	Women	436,053	26,113	126,357	150,857	101,462	31,264

Duration	Sex	Total	Number of persons, by age group (in years)				
			0–14	15–29	30–44	45–59	60 and over
Until 3 months	Both sexes	207,340	9,650	69,631	67,777	49,367	10,915
	Men	105,579	4,939	38,115	36,966	21,968	3,591
	Women	101,761	4,711	35,516	30,811	27,399	7,324
From 3 months until 1 year	Both sexes	282,715	26,430	93,902	95,953	56,711	9,719
	Men	124,308	13,350	46,299	42,037	19,691	2,931
	Women	158,407	13,080	47,603	53,916	37,020	6,788
From 1 year until 3 years	Both sexes	153,115	11,914	51,263	54,808	27,307	7,823
	Men	67,823	6,067	23,893	24,495	10,603	2,765
	Women	85,292	5,847	27,370	30,313	16,704	5,058
From 3 years and more	Both sexes	177,052	5,143	38,497	70,927	41,231	21,254
	Men	86,459	2,668	18,629	35,110	20,892	9,160
	Women	90,593	2,475	19,868	35,817	20,339	12,094

Source: SIIAMA (integrated automated information system) data, estimated by the Border Police Department (BPD).

* Information is presented according to data collected at State border crossing points controlled by Moldovan authorities.

Table 2. Relative indicators of authorized emigration of Moldovan citizens, per cent

2.1. International emigration	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
2.1.4. Growth rate of authorized emigrations of Moldovan citizens	107.28	97.43	95.35	70.75	85.68	77.47
2.1.5. Authorized emigrations gender gap for Moldovan citizens	118.93	110.31	111.36	115.00	122.78	119.58
2.1.6. Relative proportion of authorized emigrants from rural areas reported to urban	62.94	66.58	68.47	50.19	48.38	45.39

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

Table 3. Annual number of international emigrations, by level of education and sex, number of persons

	2011			2012		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total emigrants	4,039	1,813	2,226	3,129	1,425	1,704
University	421	178	243	355	135	220
Incomplete higher education	222	104	118	190	79	111
Mid-level specialized education	551	228	323	409	173	236
Mid-level	1,195	513	682	983	443	540

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

Table 4. Annual number of children taken abroad by their parents (authorized emigration), number of persons

2.1. International emigration	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
2.1.8. Number of children taken abroad by their parents	1,088	1,575	1,206	869	728	567

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

Table 5. Number of Moldovan citizens who live abroad from two data sources, number of persons

Data source	Sex	2007 ^c	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
2.3.1. Number of Moldovan citizens living abroad according to the Republic of Moldova data ^a	Total	73,431	82,337	87,933	92,184	96,223	99,352
	Men	32,959	37,268	39,888	41,829	43,642	45,067
	Women	40,472	45,069	48,045	50,355	52,581	54,285
Number of Moldovan citizens living abroad according to border crossing data (for one year and more) ^b	Total	–	237,650	272,479	284,304	307,479	330,167
	Men	–	110,470	128,443	135,690	145,021	154,282
	Women	–	127,180	144,036	148,614	162,458	175,885

Sources:

- a. MITC/SE "Registru".
- b. SIIAMA, estimated by BPD.
- c. No data from the BPD for 2007.

Table 6. Number of Moldovan citizens who left the country with the intention to establish permanent residence abroad, by sex and by country of destination (stock at the end of the year), number of persons

Desti- nation coun- try	Total					Men					Women							
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	73,431	82,337	87,933	92,184	96,223	99,352	32,959	37,268	39,888	41,829	43,642	45,067	40,472	45,069	48,045	50,355	52,581	54,285
Rus- sian Federa- tion	25,167	28,811	30,236	31,038	31,896	32,668	11,336	13,139	13,810	14,119	14,498	14,833	13,831	15,672	16,426	16,919	17,398	17,835
Ukraine	16,352	20,236	22,730	24,601	26,428	27,788	6,834	8,667	9,857	10,753	11,573	12,191	9,518	11,569	12,873	13,848	14,855	15,597
United States	11,815	12,543	13,391	14,034	14,572	14,817	5,786	6,129	6,551	6,869	7,147	7,272	6,029	6,414	6,840	7,165	7,425	7,545
Ger- many	10,403	10,453	10,711	11,036	11,215	11,433	4,666	4,688	4,762	4,891	4,953	5,045	5,737	5,765	5,949	6,145	6,262	6,388
Israel	5,981	6,214	6,411	6,677	6,881	7,079	2,782	2,916	3,002	3,120	3,211	3,306	3,199	3,298	3,409	3,557	3,670	3,773
Belarus	1,728	1,891	2,008	2,101	2,175	2,223	816	903	944	986	1,021	1,045	912	988	1,064	1,115	1,154	1,178
Canada	559	566	576	582	588	594	249	250	253	257	260	263	310	316	323	325	328	331
Czech Repub- lic	101	160	234	290	333	389	50	79	118	144	162	191	51	81	116	146	171	198
Italy	159	182	205	236	255	255	83	93	108	132	143	143	76	89	97	104	104	112
Others	1,166	1,281	1,431	1,589	1,880	2,106	374	426	504	560	674	778	792	855	927	1,029	1,214	1,328

Source: MITC/ISE "Registru".

Table 7. Emigration of Moldovan citizens according to the international definition (persons staying abroad for a period of 12 months or more), by sex and age group, 2008–2012

	Number of persons				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	237,650	272,479	284,304	307,479	330,167
Men	110,470	128,443	135,690	145,021	154,282
Women	127,180	144,036	148,614	162,458	175,885
<i>Age group, years</i>					
Total	237,650	272,479	284,304	307,479	330,167
0–4	767	976	1,399	1,664	2,728
5–9	2,181	3,030	4,091	4,908	6,084
10–14	4,045	5,252	6,209	7,106	8,245
15–19	9,354	11,331	11,656	12,671	13,383
20–24	30,191	32,543	29,288	27,834	27,083
25–29	41,419	46,696	46,643	48,254	49,294
30–34	36,283	42,268	44,135	48,162	51,620
35–39	26,530	31,252	34,805	39,103	43,087
40–44	21,590	24,497	25,563	28,108	31,028
45–49	21,770	23,463	23,159	24,578	25,446
50–54	17,203	20,024	21,480	23,773	25,177
55–59	11,982	13,621	14,587	16,110	17,915
60–64	4,841	6,414	8,588	10,576	12,326
65–69	3,787	4,009	4,090	4,381	4,881
70–74	2,916	3,536	4,089	4,675	4,943
75–79	1,515	1,851	2,258	2,717	3,411
80–84	900	1,156	1,496	1,763	2,046
85 and over	376	560	768	1,096	1,470

Source: SIIAMA, BPD.

* These figures count persons who have left to work or look for a job abroad, with the intention to return (also known in the country as “circular migration”)

Table 8. Estimated number of Moldovan citizens staying abroad, according to data from Moldovan diplomatic and consular missions in host countries, at the end of 2011 and 2012, number of persons

Host country	Number of persons	
	2011	2012
Total	505,139*	755,983*
Russian Federation	211,000	459,700
Italy	130,948	147,519
United Kingdom	16,000	20,000
Spain	16,014	17,515
Israel	15,000	15,000
Canada	13,490	13,861
Romania	11,058	13,254
Germany	11,872	11,872
Greece	11,502	11,717
Portugal	13,586	11,503
Czech Republic	7,605	6,764
Bulgaria	4,023	3,925
Belarus	–	2,371
Ukraine	1,547	1,610
Ireland	–	1,515
Belgium	913	1,480
Austria	304	805
Switzerland	710	783
Estonia	–	502
Slovenia	–	305
Sweden	208	245
Qatar	–	242
Hungary	–	238
Norway	198	215
Others	39,161	13,000

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration.

* Data are estimates based on information provided by diplomatic and consular missions.

Table 9. Number of Moldovan citizens working abroad with legal working contracts, number of persons

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
2.3.6. Number of Moldovan citizens working abroad with legal contracts	390	281	236	332	297	603

Source: National Employment Agency (NEA), under the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family (MLSPF).

Table 10. Number of Moldovan citizens working abroad with legal working contracts, by country of employment and sex, in 2012

	2012
Total	603
Israel	348
United Arab Emirates	150
Russian Federation	55
Thailand	32
Others (Cyprus, Japan and Kuwait)	18
Men	483
Women	120

Source: NEA/MLSPF.

Table 11. Number of Moldovan citizens studying abroad, number of persons

Destination country	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	2,341	2,371	2,408	4,009	4,270	5,356
Romania	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,600	3,800	5,000
Bulgaria	70	90	95	110	194	131
Ukraine	105	105	105	105	105	105
Russian Federation	110	110	160	110	110	97
Czech Republic	8	13	13	15	13	13
China	3	3	3	10	6	6
Slovakia	–	–	–	–	2	4
Turkey	40	40	30	40	40	–
Greece	5	10	2	10	–	–
Sweden	–	–	–	9	–	–

Source: Ministry of Education.

Table 12. Number of Moldovan citizens registered as asylum-seekers and recognized as refugees abroad

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of persons						
2.3.7. Number of Moldovan citizens registered as asylum-seekers abroad	909	888	739	633	460	441
2.3.8. Number of Moldovan citizens registered as recognized refugees abroad	4,918	5,555	5,929	6,200	6,264	6,148
Growth rate compared to the previous year						
2.3.7. Number of Moldovan citizens registered as asylum-seekers abroad	–28,9	–2,3	–16,8	–14,3	–27,3	–4,1
2.3.8. Number of Moldovan citizens registered as recognized refugees abroad	–57,9	13,0	6,7	4,6	1,0	–1,9

Source: United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees.

Table 13. Temporary/circular labour migration, by sex and destination countries*

Desti- nation country	Number of persons (in thousands)																	
	Total					Men					Women							
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	335.6	309.7	294.9	311.0	316.9	328.3	219.3	201.5	185.8	198.0	204.4	218.6	116.3	108.3	109.1	113.0	112.5	109.7
Russian Federation	210.8	191.1	177.2	191.9	204.8	223.4	161.8	147.5	133.8	147.2	158.0	175.0	49.0	43.6	43.4	44.7	46.8	48.4
Italy	62.4	55.4	54.8	58.6	58.4	54.9	19.2	17.2	17.5	18.5	17.2	15.6	43.2	38.2	37.4	40.1	41.2	39.3
Turkey	10.7	7.9	8.4	9	7.4	5.8	2.5	1.6	1.1	1.5	1.8	1.7	8.2	6.2	7.4	7.5	5.5	4.0
Israel	4.9	8	8.4	8.2	6.4	7.9	0.8	1.4	1	0.8	0.5	1.0	4.1	6.6	7.4	7.4	5.9	6.9
Ukraine	10.2	10.9	8.6	6.5	5.1	3.9	8.8	8.4	6.7	5.3	4.3	3.4	1.4	2.5	1.9	1.3	0.8	0.5
Portugal	7.4	5.6	6.4	5.1	4.4	3.2	5.8	4.4	4.8	3.8	3.5	2.4	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.2	0.9	0.8
Greece	5.2	2.5	3	2.5	2.4	2.1	2.5	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.6	2.7	1.5	2.3	1.8	1.9	1.5
Romania	3.6	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.4	3.0	2.4	1	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.3	1.2	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7
Others	20.3	26.3	25.6	26.9	25.6	24.1	15.4	19	18.4	18.4	16.6	16.4	4.9	7.3	7.2	8.5	9.0	7.7

Source: Labour Force Survey 2012 (National Bureau of Statistics).

* Population aged 15 years and over working or looking for a job abroad.

Table 14. Distribution of temporary/circular migrants by area of residence prior to departure and age group, 2007, 2011 and 2012

Age group, years	Number of persons (in thousands)								
	2007			2011			2012		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
Total	335.6	103.0	232.6	316.9	92.7	224.2	328.3	90.2	238.1
15–24	82.6	18.4	64.3	71.2	15.1	56.1	72.1	11.9	60.2
25–34	99.2	29.7	69.6	105.9	31.6	74.3	111.3	33.1	78.2
35–44	82.8	27.0	55.8	65.8	18.2	47.6	72.5	20.2	52.3
45–54	63.7	24.7	38.9	58.7	20.1	38.6	59.4	19.1	40.3
55–64	7.3	3.2	4.1	15.1	7.6	7.5	12.9	5.8	7.1
65 and over	–	–	–	0.2	0.2	–	0.2	0.2	0.1

Source: Labour Force Survey 2012 (National Bureau of Statistics).

Table 15. Distribution of temporary/circular migrants by sex and age group, 2007, 2011 and 2012

Age group, years	Number of persons (in thousands)								
	2007			2011			2012		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	335.6	219.3	116.3	316.9	204.4	112.5	328.3	218.6	109.7
15–24	82.6	59.4	23.3	71.2	51.8	19.2	72.1	53.8	18.2
25–34	99.2	69.3	29.9	105.9	77.0	28.9	111.3	82.6	28.7
35–44	82.8	50.3	32.5	65.8	37.1	28.7	72.5	45.0	27.6
45–54	63.7	36.1	27.6	58.7	31.8	26.9	59.4	31.2	28.2
55–64	7.3	4.3	3.0	15.1	6.6	8.5	12.9	5.9	7.0
65 and over	–	–	–	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2012, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

Table 16. Distribution of temporary/circular migrants by level of education and sex, 2007, 2011 and 2012

Level of education	Number of persons (in thousands)								
	2007			2011			2012		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	335.6	219.3	116.3	316.9	204.4	112.5	328.3	218.6	109.7
University	28.0	15.0	13.0	33.6	17.6	16.1	34.1	19.3	14.8
Mid-level specialized education	46.0	24.5	21.5	40.3	18.7	21.5	39.8	19.8	20.0
Secondary professional	92.3	68.8	23.4	78.3	58.3	19.9	86.8	66.2	20.6
Lyceum, general medium	93.8	57.3	36.4	82.2	50.7	31.5	79.7	47.8	31.9
Gymnasium	74.0	52.4	21.6	80.9	57.7	23.2	85.5	63.6	21.9
Basic/ no schooling	1.7	1.3	0.3	1.6	1.3	0.3	2.4	1.7	0.7

Source: LFS 2012 (NBS).

Table 17. Distribution of migrants by reason for going abroad, age group and sex

Reason for going abroad	Number of persons (in thousands)					
	Total	Age group, years				
		15–24	25–39	35–44	45–54	55–64
Total	426.9	83.0	139.8	103.5	80.4	20.3
Lack of jobs according to competences/qualifications	37.5	7.3	9.0	8.6	10.2	2.4
Low salaries	326.7	55.9	113.1	79.9	61.4	16.5
Bad working conditions	25.4	6.1	6.9	7.5	3.9	1.0
Other reasons	37.3	13.7	10.7	7.4	5.0	0.4
Men	288.7	64.0	102.7	67.5	44.4	10.1
Lack of jobs according to competences/qualifications	28.2	5.3	7.3	7.0	6.9	1.6
Low salaries	221.0	44.9	83.2	51.5	33.9	7.5
Bad working conditions	17.5	3.9	4.8	6.3	1.7	0.8
Other reasons	21.9	9.9	7.4	2.6	1.8	0.2
Women	138.2	19.0	37.1	36.0	36.0	10.2
Lack of jobs according to competences/qualifications	9.2	1.9	1.7	1.6	3.3	0.8
Low salaries	105.7	11.0	29.9	28.4	27.4	9.0
Bad working conditions	7.9	2.2	2.1	1.1	2.1	0.2
Other reasons	15.3	3.8	3.3	4.8	3.2	0.2

Source: NBS (2012 labour force migration data).

Table 18. Distribution of migrants by level of education* prior to departure, age group and sex

Level of education prior to departure	Number of persons (in thousands)					
	Total	Age groups, years				
		15–24	25–39	35–44	45–54	55–64
Total	217.5	27.9	62.9	58.5	55.5	12.7
Education	13.8	0.9	3.8	3.0	4.8	1.3
Humanitarian sciences and arts	4.4	–	2.6	1.1	0.6	0.2
Social sciences, affairs and law	25.8	2.2	9.7	5.4	6.9	1.7
Science	2.3	1.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	–
Engineering, processing and constructions	86.5	15.9	24.9	23.0	18.4	4.3
Agriculture	10.4	–	2.8	1.9	4.1	1.7
Health and social assistance	9.1	0.6	2.0	3.7	2.4	0.4
Services	64.9	7.3	17.0	19.7	17.8	3.2
Unknown	0.3	–	–	–	–	–
Men	146.6	21.7	46.5	40.1	31.3	6.9
Education	3.6	0.2	1.1	0.5	1.4	0.2

Level of education prior to departure	Number of persons (in thousands)					
	Total	Age groups, years				
		15–24	25–39	35–44	45–54	55–64
Humanitarian sciences and arts	2.4	–	0.9	1.0	0.6	–
Social sciences, affairs and law	8.6	0.4	5.6	1.2	0.7	0.6
Science	2.2	1.1	0.2	0.4	0.5	–
Engineering, processing and constructions	68.8	14.9	21.6	18.1	11.7	2.6
Agriculture	5.2	–	1.8	1.3	1.5	0.6
Health and social assistance	1.5	–	0.5	0.6	0.4	–
Services	54.1	5.2	14.8	16.8	14.6	2.8
Unknown	0.3	–	–	0.3	–	–
Women	70.9	6.1	16.4	18.4	24.1	5.8
Education	10.3	0.7	2.6	2.5	3.4	1.1
Humanitarian sciences and arts	2.0	–	1.7	0.2	–	0.2
Social sciences, affairs and law	17.2	1.7	4.1	4.1	6.2	1.1
Science	0.1	–	–	–	0.1	–
Engineering, processing and constructions	17.7	1.0	3.3	4.9	6.7	1.7
Agriculture	5.2	–	1.0	0.6	2.6	1.0
Health and social assistance	7.6	0.6	1.5	3.1	2.0	0.4
Services	10.8	2.1	2.3	2.9	3.2	0.3
Unknown	–	–	–	–	–	–

Source: NBS.

* Includes only persons with a high, mid-level specialized and secondary professional levels of education.

Table 19. Repatriation and readmission*

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
2.4.1. Annual number of repatriated persons	1,764	2,023	2,152	1,679	1,730	1,488
2.4.2. Growth rate of the number of repatriated persons (%)	18.31	14.68	6.38	–21.98	3.04	–14.00
2.4.3. Proportion of children among repatriated persons (%)	10.32	6.43	1.07	3.39	4.62	4.57
2.4.4. Number of Moldovan citizens readmitted based under readmission agreements	14	45	88	110	126	54

Source: Bureau of Migration and Asylum (BMA, under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, MIA), MITC/SE "Registru".

* Starting 2011, data on repatriation have been kept by two institutions: BMA (evidence of foreigners' repatriation) and the SE "Registru" (evidence of Moldovan citizens' repatriation).

Table 20. Trafficking in human beings

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
2.5.1. Number of Moldovan victims of trafficking in human beings (THB), identified and assisted through the NRS (persons)	34	84	131	132	109	189
2.5.3. Fertility ratio for THB victims	–	–	–	–	251.6	243.6
2.5.4. Number of potential THB victims assisted through the NRS (persons)	52	203	308	328	651	1214

Source: MLSPF.

Table 21. Resident population with foreign backgrounds: Main indicators

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3.2.1. Total number of foreigners living in the Republic of Moldova	14,853	16,955	18,563	20,099	19,678	20,191
3.2.2. Growth rate of the number of foreigners (%)	115.5	114.2	109.5	108.3	104.0	102.6
3.2.3. Foreigners' share of the total population (%)	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
3.2.5. Proportion of foreigners who are Stateless (%)	12.6	11.8	11.5	10.3	10.1	9.2
3.2.6. Proportion of foreigners living in urban areas (%)	81.4	79.8	78.2	78.5	78.5	77.9
3.2.7. Annual number of naturalizations	5	9	14	14	18	9
3.2.10. Number of foreign-born persons (stock)	230,096	235,877	244,530	253,847	262,572	268,836
3.2.11. Growth rate of the number of foreign-born persons (%)	103.5	102.5	103.7	103.8	103.3	102.4
3.2.12. Foreign-born persons' share of the population (%)	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.5	7.4	7.6
3.2.13. Proportion of foreign-born persons living in urban areas (%)	75.1	74.6	73.8	72.9	74.5	72.6

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

Table 22. Population with foreign backgrounds, by age and sex (stock at the end of the year), 2011 and 2012, number of persons

Age group, years	2011			2012		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	19,678	9,960	9,718	20,191	10,593	9,598
0–4	17	8	9	24	15	9
5–9	25	15	10	29	21	8
10–14	46	24	22	44	25	19
15–19	1,153	647	506	1,300	785	515
20–24	2,402	1,284	1,118	2,436	1,407	1,029
25–29	2,403	1,103	1,300	2,440	1,132	1,308
30–34	2,394	1,167	1,227	2,384	1,188	1,196
35–39	2,249	1,155	1,094	2,257	1,189	1,068
40–44	1,863	1,003	860	1,902	1,050	852
45–49	1,897	1,045	852	1,930	1,088	842
50–54	1,634	830	804	1,718	911	807
55–59	1,319	628	691	1,331	650	681
60–64	860	451	409	963	525	438
65–69	576	280	296	563	280	283
70–74	393	186	207	384	181	203
75–79	243	82	161	270	90	180
80–84	139	38	101	146	42	104
85 and over	65	14	51	70	14	56

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

Table 23. Resident population with foreign backgrounds, by country of citizenship, 2007–2012

Country of citizenship	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	14,853	16,955	18,563	20,099	19,678	20,191
Ukraine	4,669	5,630	6,552	7,114	7,392	7,171
Russian Federation	3,246	3,854	4,430	5,001	5,032	4,736
Israel	300	420	637	957	1,096	1,527
Stateless persons*	1,065	1,180	1,350	1,360	1,312	1,262
Romania	460	595	557	691	714	865
Person with non-determined citizenship	468	450	403	357	352	331
Italia	181	221	233	250	273	328
United States	223	139	143	164	175	326
Belarus	226	265	270	296	299	300
Azerbaijan	223	234	196	201	216	223
Syrian Arab Republic	305	262	214	177	167	199

Country of citizenship	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Germany	74	100	106	121	107	123
Republic of Moldova (former citizens)	795	964	995	804	–	–
Other countries	1,613	1,700	1,698	1,814	1,832	1,990

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

* According to the definition in Article 1 of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.

Table 24. Number of naturalized persons, by country of previous citizenship (stock at the end of the year), 2007–2012

Country of previous citizenship	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	608	614	630	645	663	672
Afghanistan	3	3	3	3	3	3
Armenia	1	1	1	2	3	4
Azerbaijan	3	3	3	3	3	3
China	-	-	1	1	1	1
Ethiopia	2	2	2	2	2	2
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	1
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	-	-	1
Iraq	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kazakhstan	2	2	2	2	2	2
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	-	-	1	1	1
Russian Federation	4	4	4	4	4	4
Sudan	1	1	1	2	3	3
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	-	3	3	3
Turkmenistan	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ukraine	7	7	7	7	7	7
Viet Nam	1	1	1	1	2	2
Yemen	1	1	2	2	2	2
Former Yugoslav States	-	-	-	-	-	1
Stateless person ^a	430	436	447	453	464	468
Persons with non-determined citizenship	151	151	151	152	152	152
Beneficiaries of humanitarian protection	-	-	-	1	1	1
Refugees ^b	-	-	3	4	5	5

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

- a. According to the definition in Article 1 of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.
b. According to the definition in Article 1 of the 1951 Convention and Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.

Table 25. Number of persons born abroad, regardless of citizenship (stock at the end of the year), 2007–2012

Country of birth	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	230,096	235,877	244,530	253,847	262,572	268,836
Ukraine	100,947	102,759	104,342	105,949	107,159	105,601
Russian Federation	91,660	93,574	95,774	98,280	100,669	101,104
Kazakhstan	12,523	12,714	12,924	13,088	13,180	13,139
Italy	720	1,106	2,554	4,427	6,549	10,590
Belarus	4,750	4,831	4,896	4,969	5,017	4,926
Romania	1,894	2,054	2,876	3,338	3,652	4,050
Germany	1,975	2,044	2,114	2,205	2,289	2,357
Turkey	...	...	...	...	1,793	2,294
Azerbaijan	1,852	1,893	1,936	1,992	2,004	1,998
Uzbekistan	1,870	1,913	1,939	1,971	1,994	1,991
Georgia	1,777	1,808	1,832	1,850	1,871	1,866
Spain	...	...	...	...	1,196	1,628
Others	10,128	11,181	13,343	15,778	15,199	17,292

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

Table 26. Immigration of foreigners: Main indicators

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3.1.1. Annual number of immigrations of foreigners reported by the Republic of Moldova	2,074	2,744	2,009	2,510	2,719	3,116
3.1.2. Growth rate of immigrations of foreigners	100.83	132.30	73.21	124.94	108.33	114.60
3.1.3. Gender gap for immigrations of foreigners	44.06	46.58	52.47	44.44	38.94	41.69
3.1.5. Annual number of immigrations of foreigners with secondary vocational education/higher education/science degrees	1,281	1,775	1,186	1,291	1,750	2,008
3.1.6. Growth rate of immigrated foreigners with secondary vocational education/higher education/science degrees	103.81	138.56	66.82	108.85	135.55	114.75
3.1.7. Proportion of immigrant foreigners with secondary vocational education/high education/scientific titles	61.76	64.69	59.03	51.43	64.36	64.71

Source: MIA/BMA.

Table 27. Distribution of immigrants by level of education, 2007–2012

Level of education	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	2,074	2,744	2,009	2,510	2,719	3,116
University	724	903	707	812	1,022	1,257
Mid-level specialized education	557	872	479	479	728	751
General medium	673	810	740	956	697	874
Medium incomplete	75	100	53	136	154	74
Basic/no schooling	45	59	30	48	17	22

Source: MIA/BMA.

Table 28. Distribution of immigrants by country of citizenship,* 2007–2012

Country of citizenship	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	2,074	2,744	2,009	2,510	2,719	3,116
Romania	197	353	186	309	360	445
Israel	56	183	278	482	455	407
Ukraine	394	579	436	375	384	403
Turkey	462	514	224	287	266	337
Russian Federation	256	300	230	294	240	305
United States	90	56	39	59	75	173
Syrian Arab Republic	31	36	34	34	34	65
Bulgaria	48	45	28	43	21	25
China	13	16	8	23	21	23
Jordan	9	13	7	3	8	6
Others	518	649	539	601	855	927

Source: MIA/BMA.

* Data provided by MIA/BMA for the years 2007 to 2010 were verified additionally and updated.

Table 29. Distribution of immigrants by purpose of stay in the Republic of Moldova, 2007–2012

Purpose	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	2,074	2,744	2,009	2,510	2,719	3,103
Work	1,002	1,128	591	777	865	968
Studies	222	522	516	753	720	617
Family reunion	849	1,094	902	905	865	1,060
Others	1	0	0	75	269	458

Source: MIA/BMA.

Table 30. Temporary migration of the population with foreign backgrounds

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3.4.1. Number of foreigners holding a permanent residence permit	11,387	13,165	14,781	15,546	13,342	12,240
3.4.2. Growth rate of the number of permanent residence permit-holders (%)	113.1	115.6	112.3	105.2	85.8	91.7
3.4.3. Proportion of working-age foreigners with permanent residence permits (%)	74.1	75.9	77.0	79.2	62.1	55.5
3.4.4. Proportion of foreigners living in the country for at least five years (%)	–	–	–	–	17.9	19.8
3.4.5. Number of foreigners who are first-time temporary residence permit-holders (%)	2,073	2,743	2,008	2,232	1,971	2,490
3.4.6. Number of foreigners holding valid temporary residence permits	3,466	3,790	3,782	4,553	4,757	6,148
3.4.7. Proportion of foreigners with temporary residence permits for family reunion (%)	41.0	39.9	44.9	36.1	37.8	38.1
3.4.8. Proportion of foreigners with temporary residence permits for work or business (%)	48.3	41.1	29.4	30.6	28.3	27.5
3.4.9. Proportion of foreigners with temporary residence permits for study or training (%)	10.7	19.0	25.7	33.3	29.3	19.6
3.4.10. Proportion of foreigners with temporary residence permits for humanitarian and religious activities (%)	0	0	3.0	0	4.2	4.4
3.4.11. Proportion of foreigners with temporary residence permits for medical treatment (%)	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
3.4.12. Proportion of foreigners with temporary residence permits for other purposes (%)	0	0	0	0	0.3	5.4
3.4.13. Number of foreigners with local border traffic permits	0	0	0	0	10	10

Source: MIA/SE "Registru".

Table 31. Number of foreigners studying in the Republic of Moldova, by country of origin

Country of origin	Number of persons					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	1,383	1,219	1,300	1,372	1,632	2,028
Belarus	...	15	13	15	11	10
Bulgaria	66	53	44	47	24	16
China	4	4	7	2	3	1
Jordan	45	9	5	6	7	8
Israel	207	300	525	764	1,068	1,384
Romania	100	78	48	36	80	155
Russian Federation	166	140	141	118	113	102
Syrian Arab Republic	159	103	62	23	10	14
Sudan	28	24	14	7	1	3
Turkey	163	149	146	76	57	60
Ukraine	354	271	235	202	157	165
Others	91	88	73	91	112	110

Source: NBS.

Table 32. Involuntary migration of the population with foreign backgrounds: Main indicators

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3.7.1. Annual number of asylum applications (first request)	75	57	42	90	72	177
3.7.3. Femininity ratio of asylum-seekers	23.0	23.9	68.0	32.4	28.6	29.2
3.7.4. Annual number of humanitarian protection beneficiaries, including Stateless persons	20	20	12	25	20	45
3.7.5. Number of persons who were refused humanitarian protection	41	53	34	35	74	55
3.7.6. Number of asylum-seekers with pending applications as of 31 December of the reference year (units)	79	33	52	81	49	79
3.7.7. Number of persons granted Stateless status	0	0	0	0	0	6
3.7.8. Number of stateless persons granted the right to stay in the Republic of Moldova	0	0	0	0	4	15
3.7.9. Growth rate of the number of asylum-seekers with pending applications (%)	101.3	41.8	157.6	155.8	60.5	161.2
3.7.10. Number of refugees in the Republic of Moldova	89	84	80	70	56	72
3.7.11. Growth rate of the number of refugees (%)	104.7	94.4	95.2	87.5	80.0	128.6

Source: MIA/BMA.

Table 33. Border crossing mobility, including number of visas granted: Main indicators*

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.1.12. Annual number of departures of Moldovan citizens at State borders	4,276,573	5,195,698	4,965,142	4,916,233	5,124,750	5,176,251
1.1.14. Growth rate of the number of departures of Moldovan citizens at State borders (%)	119.82	121.49	95.56	99.01	104.24	101.00
1.1.9. Annual number of arrivals of Moldovan citizens at State borders	4,160,945	5,089,623	5,062,475	4,825,359	5,011,442	5,056,087
Growth rate of the number of arrivals of Moldovan citizens at State borders (%)	119.35	122.32	99.47	95.32	103.86	100.89
1.1.10. Annual number of arrivals of foreigners at State borders	1,306,370	1,717,789	1,478,383	1,885,841	2,194,315	2,273,840
1.1.11. Growth rate of the number of arrivals of foreigners at State borders (%)	187.04	131.49	86.06	127.56	116.36	103.62
1.1.13. Annual number of departures of foreigners at State borders	1,295,397	1,728,592	1,675,474	1,898,272	2,207,326	2,275,847
Growth rate of the number of departures of foreign citizens registered at State borders (%)	189.18	133.44	96.93	113.30	116.28	103.10

Source: BPD.

* Data provided repeatedly by BPD for 2007 to 2010 were verified additionally and updated.

Table 34. Number of visas granted to foreigners, 2007–2012

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3.1.8. Annual number of visas granted by Moldovan consulates	17,351	23,068	23,000	16,772	14,954	15,541
3.1.9. Growth rate of the number of granted visas (%)	227.9	132.95	99.71	72.92	89.16	103.92

Source: MFAEI.

Table 35. Illegal stay of foreigners: Main indicators

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3.8.1. Number of irregular migrants ("illegal" migrants)	2,961	3,245	1,961	2,298	1,711	1,452
3.8.2. Number of expelled foreigners	305	310	83	58	70	101
3.8.4. Number of foreigners with revoked right to stay in RM	0	0	0	0	0	201
3.8.5. Number of foreigners with refused right to stay in RM	...	...	...	...	...	...
3.8.6. Number of foreigners on whom was disposed the measure of return on the territory of the Republic of Moldova	0	0	0	0	54	380
3.8.7. Number of foreigners declared "undesirable" on the territory of the Republic of Moldova	0	0	0	0	6	2
3.8.8. Number of foreigners taken into public custody	0	0	71	80	103	88

Source: MIA/BMA.

Part B: Impact of migration

Table 36. General demographic indicators

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.1.1 Total population(in thousands)	3,572.7	3,567.5	3,563.6	3,560.4	3,559.5	3,559.5
1.1.2. Population growth rate	-0.24	-0.15	-0.11	-0.09	-0.03	-0.0
1.1.3. Birth rate	10.62	10.93	11.44	11.36	11.00	11.08
1.1.4. Death rate	12.04	11.75	11.82	12.25	11.02	11.11
1.1.5. Natural growth	-1.42	-0.82	-0.38	-0.89	-0.02	-0.03
1.1.6. Gross immigration rate	1.07	1.34	1.19	1.18	0.76	0.87
1.1.7. Gross emigration rate	2.01	1.96	1.87	1.32	1.11	0.88
1.1.8. Net migration rate	-0.93	-0.62	-0.68	-0.15	-0.35	-0.01
marriage rate (%)	8.2	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.3	6.8
divorce rate (%)	3.9	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0
Aging coefficient of population, men and women	13.7	13.7	14.0	14.4	14.8	15.3
Men	11.2	11.2	11.5	11.8	12.2	12.6
Women	16.0	16.0	16.4	16.8	17.3	17.8
Life expectancy upon birth (years), men and women	68.8	69.4	69.3	69.1	70.9	71.1
Men	65.0	65.5	65.3	65.0	66.8	67.2
Women	72.6	73.2	73.4	73.4	74.9	75.0

Source: NBS.

Table 37. Demographic composition of the population, per cent

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.2.1. Proportion of the population aged less than 15 years (%)	17.57	17.08	16.71	16.45	16.22	16.09
1.2.2. Proportion of the population aged 65 years and over (%)	10.33	10.25	10.12	9.98	9.93	9.95
1.2.3. Demographic dependency ratio						
1.2.3.1. Demographic dependency ratio (national definition)	51.68	50.87	50.29	49.93	50.22	50.07
1.2.3.2. Demographic dependency ratio (international definition)	38.70	37.61	36.68	35.92	35.41	35.21
1.2.4. Seniority ratio	17.52	18.61	19.40	20.30	20.78	21.68
1.2.5. Proportion of males aged 65 years and over	8.10	8.03	7.89	7.77	7.74	7.76
1.2.6. Proportion of females aged 65 years and over	12.39	12.30	12.19	12.03	11.97	11.98
1.2.7. Feminity ratio for those aged 65 years and over	165.09	165.52	166.73	167.05	166.93	166.50

Source: NBS.

Table 38. Stable population by sex and age group (end of year counts), 2007 and 2012, number of persons

Age groups, years	2007			2012		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	3,572,703	1,717,459	1,855,244	3,559,497	1,712,346	1,847,151
0–4	186,033	95,879	90,154	195,059	100,738	94,321
5–9	191,792	98,446	93,346	186,135	95,818	90,137
10–14	250,035	127,383	122,652	191,594	98,471	93,123
15–19	327,472	166,383	161,089	249,709	127,274	122,435
20–24	352,983	179,330	173,653	326,413	165,963	160,450
25–29	296,669	150,473	146,196	350,072	178,263	171,809
30–34	258,136	128,727	129,409	292,582	148,549	144,033
35–39	231,013	113,608	117,405	254,093	126,114	127,979
40–44	239,429	115,240	124,189	226,987	110,629	116,358
45–49	284,708	135,133	149,575	232,677	110,340	122,337
50–54	253,117	118,349	134,768	272,821	126,909	145,912
55–59	212,879	96,683	116,196	236,976	107,415	129,561
60–64	119,442	52,627	66,815	190,219	82,968	107,251
65–69	125,242	51,231	74,011	104,565	44,335	60,230
70–74	100,880	39,228	61,652	100,563	38,254	62,309
75–79	78,219	28,657	49,562	72,254	25,752	46,502

Age groups, years	2007			2012		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
80–84	42,582	13,450	29,132	48,452	16,212	32,240
85 and over	22,072	6,632	15,440	28,326	8,342	19,984
from the total population:						
persons below the working age (0–15 years)	687,095	351,918	335,177	615,910	316,995	298,915
persons of working age (16–56 or 61 years)	2,355,459	1,197,080	1,158,379	2,361,913	1,217,746	1,144,167
persons beyond the working (57 or 62 + years)	530,149	168,461	361,688	581,674	177,605	404,069

Source: NBS.

Table 39. Comparison of urban and rural populations

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.3.1. Size of the urban population (in thousands)	1,476.1	1,476.1	1,476.7	1,481.7	1,485.8	1,492.2
1.3.2. Urbanization rate	41.32	41.38	41.44	41.62	41.74	41.92
1.3.3. Growth rate of the urban population	99.87	100.00	100.04	100.34	100.27	100.43
1.3.4. Proportion of persons aged less than 15 years living in urban areas (%)	14.81	14.41	14.17	13.99	13.85	13.80
1.3.5. Proportion of persons aged 65 years and over living in urban areas (%)	8.50	8.53	8.57	8.65	8.81	9.01
1.3.6. Proportion of persons aged less than 15 years living in rural areas (%)	19.52	18.97	18.51	18.20	17.91	17.75
1.3.7. Proportion of persons aged 65 years and over living in rural areas (%)	11.62	11.46	11.23	10.93	10.74	10.63
1.3.8. Dependency ratio in urban areas	30.40	29.77	29.42	29.26	29.31	29.54
1.3.9. Seniority ratio in urban areas	16.34	17.23	17.97	18.57	18.77	19.31
1.3.10. Femininity ratio for the population aged 65 years and over in urban areas	167.84	166.76	166.81	165.66	164.03	162.49
1.3.11. Dependency ratio in rural areas	45.21	43.73	42.32	41.10	40.15	39.62
1.3.12. Seniority ratio in rural areas	18.13	19.34	20.18	21.28	21.86	23.13
1.3.13. Femininity ratio for the population aged 65 years and over in rural areas	163.69	164.87	166.69	167.83	168.66	169.01

Source: NBS.

Table 40. Demographic composition of the population of persons of foreign origin, per cent

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3.3.1. Proportion of foreigners among the total population aged less than 15 years	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02
3.3.2. Proportion of foreigners among population aged 65 years and over	0.23	0.28	0.33	0.36	0.39	0.40
3.3.3. Sex ratio for the population of foreigners	109.23	105.07	100.12	101.78	102.49	110.36

Source: MITC/ SE "Registru".

Table 41. Economic global indicators

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.6.1. Gross domestic product (GDP)	53,429.6	62,921.6	60,429.8	71,849.2	82,349.0	87,847.0
1.6.2. Growth rate of real total GDP	103.0	107.8	94.0	107.1	106.8	99.2
1.6.3. GDP per capita	14,937	17,625	16,948	20,171	23,132	24,680
1.6.4. Growth rate of GDP per capita	103.2	108.0	94.1	107.2	106.9	99.2
1.6.7. Human development index (HDI)	0.638	0.644	0.638	0.644	0.638	0.660

Source: NBS.

Table 42. Impact of remittances on the welfare of households*

	Area of residence	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.7.5. Proportion of households receiving remittances	Total	23.1	26.4	23.1	24.5	23.1	22.4
	Urban	19.9	22.6	20.7	20.6	20.4	20.0
	Rural	25.6	29.5	25.1	27.6	25.2	24.4
1.7.6. Proportion of remittances in the household available income depending on remittances	Total	55.2	55.7	55.2	54.3	52.9	56.9
	Urban	52.2	48.4	49.4	47.7	49.1	52.1
	Rural	57.1	60.7	59.8	58.7	55.7	60.4
1.7.7. Proportion of households that would be placed under the poverty line if not receiving remittances	Total	11.3	14	11.6	12.9	30.9	27.6
	Urban	8.2	10.4	8.6	8.9	18.5	18.2
	Rural	13.5	16.7	13.8	15.7	40.8	35.3

Source: NBS.

* Data extracted from the Annual Reports on Human Development, available from www.undp.md.

Table 43. Distribution of migrants by the average monthly amount sent/brought back to the family, by age group and sex, thousands of persons

Average monthly amount	Total	Age groups, years				
		15–24	25–39	35–44	45–54	55–64
Total	410.4	79.0	132.3	100.3	79.3	19.6
none	99.0	31.3	34.8	18.6	11.7	2.6
USD 500 or less	146.8	23.3	49.4	37.3	31.5	5.2
USD 501–800	50.8	7.5	15.4	13.6	10.5	3.9
USD 801–1000	20.7	3.9	5.9	6.2	3.6	1.1
USD 1001 and over	11.0	1.3	2.1	2.9	4.0	0.7
undeclared	82.1	11.8	24.6	21.7	17.9	6.0
Men	277.9	52.5	82.2	52.0	33.6	6.0
none	70.8	22.2	29.3	12.6	5.9	0.8
USD 500 or less	94.9	19.0	35.0	23.3	15.8	1.8
USD 501–800	36.5	7.0	12.2	8.6	6.5	2.2
USD 801–1000	15.9	3.3	4.7	5.1	2.3	0.4
USD 1001 and over	8.2	1.0	1.0	2.4	3.1	0.7
undeclared	51.6	8.9	15.4	13.8	10.1	3.4
Women	132.6	17.7	34.6	34.5	35.7	10.2
none	28.2	9.2	5.5	6.0	5.8	1.8
USD 500 or less	51.9	4.3	14.4	14.0	15.7	3.4
USD 501–800	14.3	0.5	3.2	5.0	4.1	1.7
USD 801–1000	4.9	0.6	1.3	1.1	1.2	0.7
USD 1001 and over	2.8	0.2	1.1	0.5	1.0	-
undeclared	30.5	2.9	9.2	7.9	7.9	2.6

Source: NBS (2012 labour force migration data).

Table 44. Dynamics of poverty indicators

Indicator	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
1.6.5.1. Share of population below absolute poverty line	25.8	26.4	26.3	21.9	17.5	16.6
1.6.6. Proportion of children under 18 years living in households under the poverty line	27.3	27.2	28.2	24.2	19.8	18.9
1.6.5.2. Share of population below absolute poverty line	31.2	32.1	32.9	30.4	20.2	18.2

Source: NBS.

Table 45. Economically active population

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Economically active population (in thousands)	1,314	1,303	1,265	1,235	1,258	1,215
Growth rate of the economically active population (%)	96.83	99.16	97.08	97.63	101.86	96.58
Activity rate	44.8	44.3	42.8	41.6	42.3	40.7

Source: NBS.

Table 46. Working-age population: Main indicators, 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012
1.4.1.1. Proportion of the working-age population (national definition), in thousands	66.57	66.36
1.4.1.2. Proportion of the working-age population (international definition), in thousands	73.85	73.96
1.4.2.1. Growth rate of the working-age population (national definition), in thousands	99.78	99.68
1.4.2.2. Growth rate of the working-age population (international definition), in thousands	100.35	100.15
1.4.3. Demographic labour pressure index	94.32	88.42
1.4.4. Age structure index for the working-age population	77.66	78.74
1.4.5. Femininity ratio for the population aged 15 to 39 years	97.73	97.39
1.4.6. Femininity ratio for the population aged 40 to 64 years	115.20	115.45

Source: NBS.

Table 47. Foreign population of working age, 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012
3.5.1. Number of working-age foreigners (15–64 years)	18,174	18,661
3.5.2. Growth rate of working-age foreigners (15–64 years)	103.93	102.68
3.5.3. Proportion of working-age persons of the entire foreigner population	0.63	0.64
3.5.4. Age structure index for working-age foreigners (40–64 years reported to 15–39 years)	71.44	72.52
3.5.5. Femininity ratio for foreigners aged 15 to 39 years	97.93	89.74
3.5.6. Femininity ratio for foreigners aged 40 to 64 years	91.48	85.70

Source: MITC/SE "Registru".

Table 48. Labour force indicators, 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012
1.5.1.1. Labour force participation rate (national definition), %	49.7	47.0
1.5.1.2. Labour force participation rate (international definition), %	47.0	40.7
1.5.2.1. Employment rate (national definition), %	39.4	38.4
1.5.2.2. Employment rate of the population of 15-64 years (international definition), %	43.8	42.7
1.5.3. Unemployment rate, %	6.7	5.6
1.5.4. Youth unemployment rate, %	14.9	13.1
1.5.5. Female unemployment rate, %	5.6	4.3
1.5.6. Unemployment gender gap	-2.1	-2.5

Source: NBS.

Table 49. Number of children left behind in the Republic of Moldova by migrant parents looking for a job abroad, 2009 and 2012

	MLSPF			MEd		
	2009	2012*	+/-, %	2009	2012	+/-, %
Total	54,586	105,270	192.8	54,592	42,886	-21.4
one parent abroad	36,930	83,645	226.5	34,145	32,258	-5.5
both parents abroad	17,656	21,625	122.5	20,447	10,628	-48.0

* Data from the quantitative study for the identification of children in difficulty, including those left behind by family members who went abroad.

Table 50. Evolution of general obligatory education enrolment

	Area of residence	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Primary	Total	94.0	93.6	93.5	93.6	93.8	93.8
	Urban	100.9	101.6	102.4	104.0	105.0	107.0
	Rural	90.5	89.4	88.9	88.0	87.5	86.1
Gymnasium	Total	90.1	89.3	88.8	88.1	87.5	86.7
	Urban	95.4	95.1	95.8	95.6	96.0	96.2
	Rural	87.3	86.3	85.3	84.3	83.2	81.8

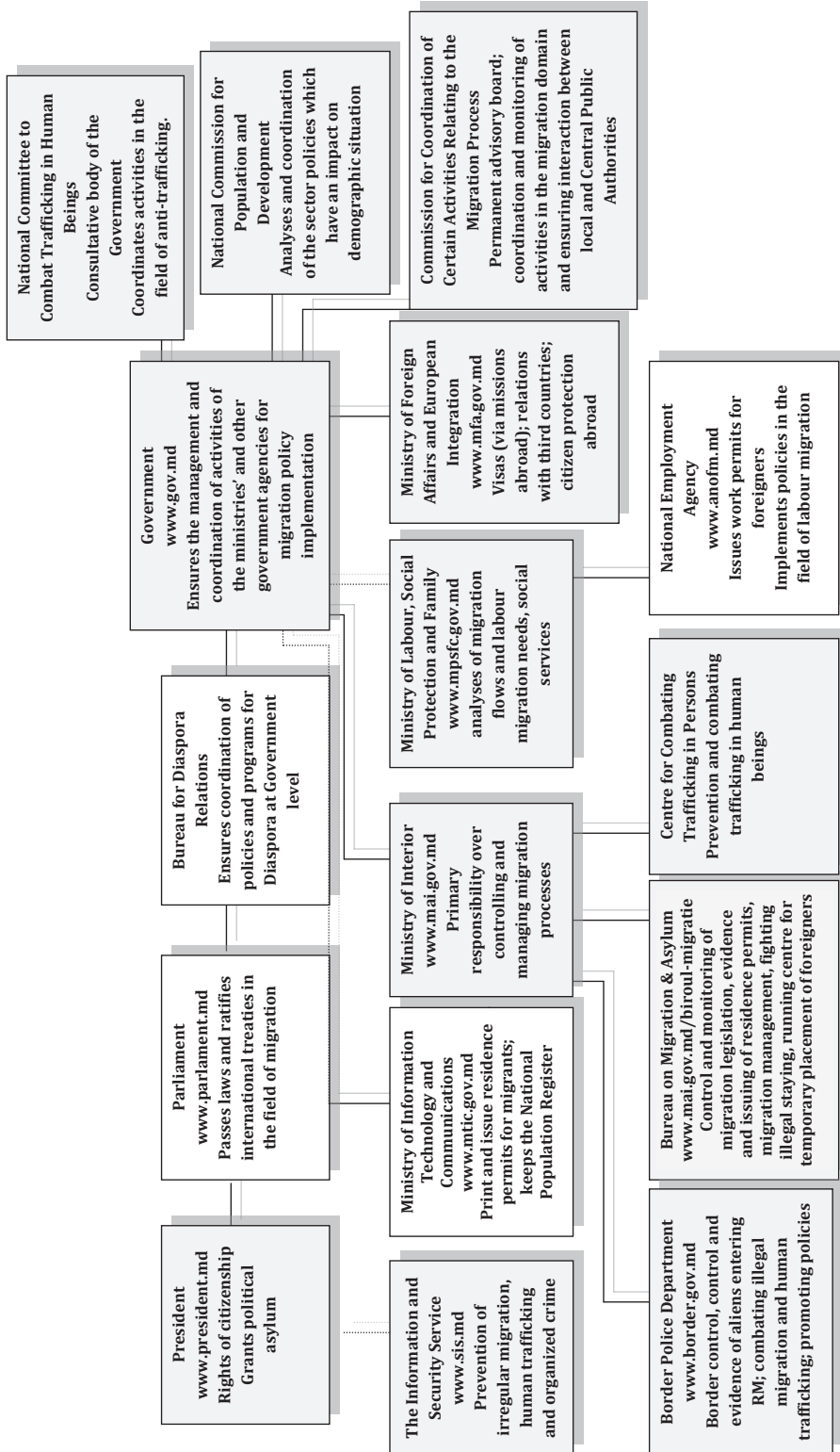
Source: NBS.

Table 51. Medical staff in the health-care system

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Doctors, total number	10,646	10,757	10,761	10,619	10,657	10,570
Medium medical personnel, total number	22,648	22,658	23,141	23,003	22,885	22,788
Staffing rate with health professionals, per 10,000 inhabitants	29.8	30.1	30.3	29.8	29.9	29.7
Urban	63.8	64.4	65	63.7	63.8	63.0
Rural	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
Staffing rate with health workers with secondary education, per 10,000 inhabitants	63.4	63.5	65	64.6	64.2	64.0
Urban	116.6	117.8	121.3	125.6	119.3	119.0
Rural	25.9	25.2	25.1	24.7	24.7	24.3

Source: Ministry of Health.

Annex 3. Institutional Framework for Policies on Migration and Asylum



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