



International Journal of Applied Business and Economic Research

ISSN : 0972-7302

available at <http://www.serialsjournals.com>

© Serials Publications Pvt. Ltd.

Volume 15 • Number 23 • 2017

Emigration of Young People from Russia: Forms, Trends and Consequences

Sergey Ryazantsev^{1,2} and Artem Lukyanets^{1,2}

¹ Institute for Social and Political Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russian Federation

² Moscow State Institute of International Relations (University) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia

* E-mail: riazan@mail.ru

** E-mail: artem_ispr@mail.ru

Abstract: Emigration from Russia has assumed many forms and large scales and is accompanied by the outflow of capital and the loss of intellectual and business resources for the country. Education and labor emigration are the key channels of emigration of young people from Russia. On the face of it, educational and labor migration appear the channels of temporary migration. Experience has proven that exactly education and labor migration become the channels of Russian young people's departure for permanent place of residence. In the face of the demographic crisis, the loss of educated part of the population of active reproductive and working age is the grievous loss for the country. Demographic losses are expressed both in the decreasing number of the population and potential losses from the reduced implementation of the reproductive potential. Moreover, the reducing number of young people also causes economic problems connected with the reduction of some segments of the consumer market, the educational services market, revenue receipts and so on. A social aspect should be also noted. The society with not many young people often loses social optimism and the dynamics of development. There is the need for increased payment for labour in industries which support the outflow of highly skilled specialists abroad such, first of all, as education and science. The arrangement of conditions for professional growth and development and young professionals being in demand in the labor market will not only prevent the outflow of young people abroad, but also will attract young people, who have earlier emigrated back to the country.

Keywords: emigration, young people, temporary labor emigration, education emigration, migration policy

JEL Classification: F22, D02, E20, J15

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays in the Russian Federation at the state level much attention is paid to the problems of emigration to the country, first of all, to labor immigration. It is caused by increased scales of emigration and its

significant contribution to the socio-economic development of the country, and also by ethnic and cultural changes in the Russian society. There is a strong opinion that Russia takes the second position among countries which are the world leaders on reception of immigrants while the United States are the first. It is no coincidence that the main priority of the Russian migration in recent years has become immigration. For example, on 13 June 2012 the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation V.V. Putin for the period till 2025 has approved the Concept of the State Migration Policy of the Russian Federation which can be called rather a concept of the immigration policy.

In 2014-2015 the Russian Federation, as well as most countries of the European Union, has faced new forms of immigration and significant flows of humanitarian (forced) immigration. In Russia it had a massive, but organized character, but in countries of the European Union it is characterized not only by the large scale of flows but also by chaos and mess. The structure of refugees has become a distinctive feature. In Russia, it was presented by refugees from south-eastern regions of Ukraine speaking Russian and professing Christianity, and in countries of the European Union it was presented by refugees from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and other Middle Eastern and North African countries. All these flows have fixed in Russia the conviction that, first of all, there is the need to control immigration.

In this context all issues of emigration from the country are almost not reflected in the migration policy of the state. Meanwhile, many studies point out that emigration from Russia has acquired a variety of forms, large scales and is accompanied by the outflow of capital and the loss of intellectual and business resources for the country (Ryazantsev, 2014; Ryazantsev, 2013).

EMIGRATION ACCOUNTING IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Traditionally the native and foreign scientific literature on emigration from Russia analyzed emigrants' flows for permanent place of residence abroad. Mostly, the authors investigated processes of "the outflow of brainpower". At the same time temporary forms of emigration were often underestimated. However, in recent years emigration flows from Russia has significantly increased and transformed. Moreover, the social basis of temporary emigration has significantly extended. Russians from a province, people with the median level of education, women and young people were actively engaged in this emigration. Labor, commercial and religious migration and tourism became the key forms of temporary emigration from Russian. These forms often closely intertwine and complement each other.

Specific difficulties of accounting of emigration from Russia are the following:

- 1) traditional "tying" of emigration accounting to the residence registration system ("residence permit");
- 2) insufficient coordination between the statistics of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Border Service;
- 3) imperfect information and the ineffective system of Russian citizens' accounting living and outside Russia;
- 4) insufficient coordination of the Federal State Statistics Service with national statistics services of foreign countries.

Nowadays in Russian the data on emigration are developed by local agencies of the Federal Migration Service of statistical accounting documents of arrivals and departures. The papers of migrants' statistical

accounting are made during registration and deregistration of population at place of residence and during registration at place of arrival for a period of 9 months or more. The data of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation on the actual number of foreign citizens, who have arrived in the Russian Federation and left the Russian Federation for the purpose of journey, is one more source. The disadvantage is incorrect fixing of the reasons for departure. There are the following purposes of journey which are considered by the Border Service: business and private purposes, tourism, permanent place of residence, help staff. This list is inaccurate and some purposes cut each other (for example, tourism and private journey). But there are not such purposes as job and study, participation in conferences and negotiations. All these facts allow to obtain high-quality and adequate information on migration and are not in the state's interests.

To improve emigration accounting and to obtain adequate data crossing the border by Russian citizens the border guards should fixed on a type of the document which allows to arrive in the country of destination and in which, as a rule, there is the purpose of journey (a visa or temporary (permanent) residence permit, passport of the other country (if a person traveling abroad has at least double citizenship)).

However, countries with a visaless regime, the number which is large, will have to rely on human answers. And there the reasons for departure should be more accessible, understandable and unambiguous. Bu the Russian statistics on departure and emigration from the country is still incomplete and inaccurate. Comparative studies show that, according to foreign statistics, in the major countries of emigration there are orders of magnitude more Russian citizens than according to Russian statistics (Ryazantsev & Pismennaya, 2013).

EMIGRATION FROM RUSSIA: FORM AND GEOGRAPHY

Russian citizens' emigration for permanent place of residence was directed to such countries of "classic emigration" as the USA, Germany, Israel. However, over the last ten years there was a significant diversification of emigration geography due to countries of "new emigration" near Russia (Finland, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Turkey), as well as greatly outside it (Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Latin America) . Many people have left their country for permanent place of residence with their capital, having invested them into economy of host countries and already being their citizens (Ryazantsev, 2015).

Temporary labor emigration from Russia, according to official data, in recent years was 60-70 thousand people (in 2013 about 58 thousand Russian citizens have got a work permit abroad). However, studies show that nowadays many Russian citizens find a job abroad without going through the official channels, arriving in different countries having work, business, tourist and guest visas, directly meeting employers and do not fall into the data of the Federal Migration Service. The scales of temporary labor emigration from Russia are order of magnitude greater and, according to our estimates, they are equal to about 150-200 thousand people per year.

The main countries for Russians' employment are Liberia, Cyprus, the United States, Malta, Netherlands, Cambodia, Germany, Panama, Bahamas, and Greece. The comparison of foreign and native data on Russians' labor migration abroad testifies to the fact that migration from the country was at least 2 times larger (in some countries in some years even more).

Regionally residents of border regions of Russia are involved in labor emigration to a greater degree. Calculations show that the share of labor migrants among the employed population at the regional level is

maximal in such border regions as Primorsky and Khabarovsk Regions, Krasnodar Region, the Republic of Karelia, Leningrad and Kaliningrad Regions.

CHANNELS AND SCALES OF YOUTH EMIGRATION FROM RUSSIA

The modern age limit of the concept “young people” is in the interval 14 to 30 years old (Rostovskaya & Ryazantsev, 2015).

The traditional channels of emigration of young people from Russia are emigration for permanent place of residence with parents and without them (international adoption), labor migration, migration for family reunification, matrimonial migration. The specific channels are educational migration and popular in recent years many cultural and scientific exchange programs.

In most host countries one of the conditions for the permanent status acquisition is the requirement of legal residence within the country for a certain time period (usually for 5 years). As a general rule, the study at universities and colleges lasts from 4 to 6 years. The document on education, knowledge of the language and culture, permanent residence within the foreign state allow Russian citizens to apply for the resident status of the host country. This is somewhat true for labor migration. Labor migrants quite often meet courses or colleges and universities to get a diploma on education of the host country.

Also, educational emigration was stimulated by Russian students' education support programs which were developed in Europe and the United States. In 2013, according to the UNESCO data, the number of students from Russia in all countries was 45.2 thousand, having increased as compared to 2000 by more than 2 times. Russian students' distribution to host countries is as follows: in Germany, this number is equal to 21%, in the USA - 12%, in France, the United Kingdom and the Czech Republic - 8%. One of the distinctive features of Russian students studying abroad is their migration purpose aimed at strengthening their permanent resident status in the country of education. Our sociological studies show that 90% Russian students studying in the US on Bachelor Degree and Master's programs would like to obtain the permanent resident status, 60% of them are ready now to renounce Russian citizenship, if it will be necessary for obtaining a GREEN CARD (a residence permit).

For those, who cannot allow themselves education abroad, there are many youth exchange programs, which, at least, contribute to the formation of migration purposes of young people, as well at the outside, are the channels of emigration on a permanent basis (the state program Global Education, Work & Travel USA, Au Pair Camp, FLEX, Work in France and others).

According to the Federal Migration Service data, the share of young people at the ages from 16 to 29 in the flow of labor migrants in recent years was on average 30%. In the youth emigration flows men dominate over women and in 2012 the ratio was 76% to 24% respectively.

A specific form of migration is the adoption of children by foreign citizens. The Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation makes the statistics. The adoption of children, who are citizens of the Russian Federation by foreign citizens and Russian citizens, who have been permanently living outside the Russian Federation, and stateless persons (hereinafter they are called foreign citizens) shall be allowed only in cases if there is no opportunity to foster them to the families of Russian Federation citizens, who have been permanently living within the Russian Federation, or to the adoption of children by relatives regardless of their citizenship and place of residence of these relatives.

Table 1
Age and gender composition of Russian young people at the ages from 16 to 29 who have left the country for working abroad, persons

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total, including</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>The share of young people on the total flow of labor emigrants from Russia, %</i>
1994	1 884	1 539	345	23.3
1995	2 574	2 103	471	23.0
2000	12 419	8 611	3 808	27.1
2001	13 759	8 272	5 487	30.1
2002	14 048	9 640	4 408	28.5
2003	13 587	7 945	5 642	28.5
2004	18 985	11 084	7 901	33.7
2005	20 995	12 763	8 232	34.5
2006	27 238	15 780	11 458	41.4
2007	25 088	16 030	9 058	35.9
2008	26 646	16 628	10 018	36.4
2009	22 090	13 943	8 147	33.3
2010	24 866	16 035	8 831	35.4
2011	19 979	14 622	5 357	29.6
2012	19 097	15 368	3 729	29.7

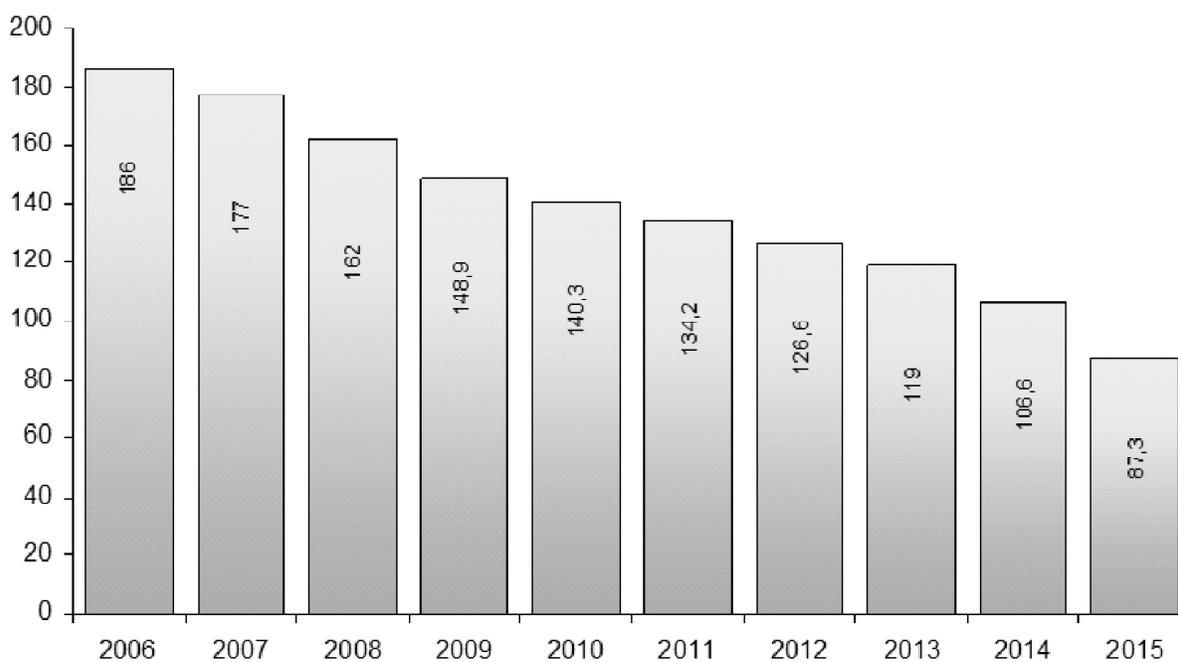


Figure 1: Number of children who are registered with the State Database of Children without Parental Custody

As a result of international adoptions in 2004-2014 about 48 thousand children adopted by foreign nationals have left the Russian Federation (Table 2). Of course, from the perspective of a certain child, it is a positive phenomenon when he or she has found parents and family. However, from the perspective of the country, it is the demographic potential loss. In recent years, there were measures for stimulation the adoption of children by Russian citizens taken. However, this matter is still not effectively resolved in Russia.

Table 2
Dynamics of the number of children adopted by Russian and foreign citizens in the Russian Federation in 2004-2014 years, persons

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total adopted, including</i>	<i>By Russian citizens</i>	<i>By foreign citizens</i>
2004	16.432	7.013	9.419
2005	14.430	6.904	7.526
2006	14.431	7.742	6.689
2007	14.066	9.530	4.536
2008	13.225	9.100	4.125
2009	12.753	8.938	3.815
2010	11.157	7.802	3.355
2011	10.816	7.416	3.400
2012	9.169	6.565	2.604
2013	8.245	6.757	1.488
2014	7.654	6.616	1.038
Total	132.378	84.383	47.995

IMPACT OF EMIGRATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE ON RUSSIA

Despite negative demographic trends in the Russian Federation in the 1990s, in the context of the total population reduction, the number of the population at the ages from 15 to 29 as its share has increased. This growth lasted till 2005. The explanation for the growth of the number and the share of young people is proved by the fact that the number of young people, first of all, is influenced by the birth and lethal rate in the country, at the last by the migration rate. At the same time, these changes are reflected only in the medium term for 15-20 years.

At the beginning of 2015 (excluding the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol) the number of young people in Russia has reached its minimum and was 28.7 million persons or 19.7% of the total Russian population (Figure 2). As compared to 2010, the number of young people has decreased by 3.8 million persons or 3.1%. In general, since 2005 the number and the share of young people show the negative growth rate that is caused by significant changes in the dynamics of natural demographic events.

Since 2002 there is step-by-step “growing-up” of young people and, as consequence, the increasing average age that is also due to the decreasing birth rate in the 1990s. If, according to the 2002 census data, the share of young people at the ages from 15 to 19 was 36.8%, then in 2015 it was equal to 23.8%. At the same time the share of a group at the ages from 25 to 29 over the same period has increased from 30.4% to 43.9%.

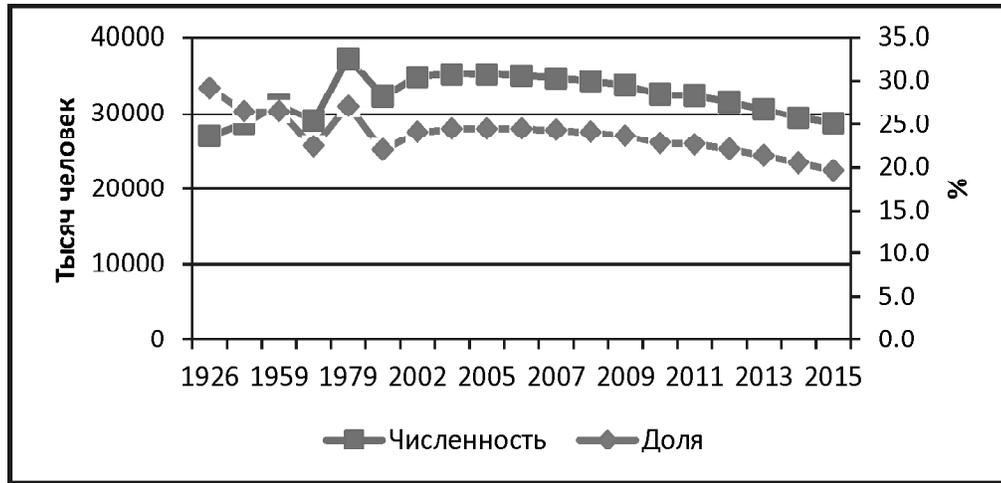


Figure 2: Number and the share of the population at the ages from 15 to 29 in Russia, persons and %.

The number and the share of young people in the immediate future will even more decrease. The only possible way for the increasing number of young people is immigration mainly of people at the ages from 15 to 29 included, but it seems to be hardly probable.

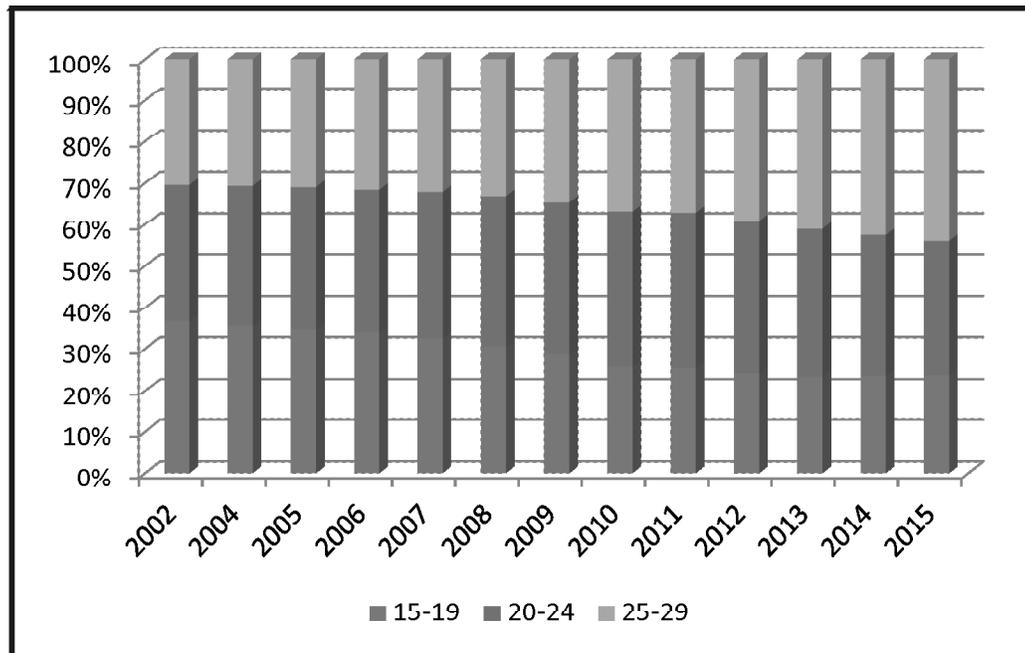


Figure 3: Age pattern of Russian young people in 2002-2015, %.

Russian young people are concentrated in the cities. This trend was especially visible in 1959 when the census has fixed the exceeding share of the urban population over the rural population among young people that was 56% over 44%. Throughout the future time this share has been growing more and more till 1989 when the figure was equal to 75.7%. At the beginning of 2015, 75.8% young people living in the city

at the ages from 15 to 29. This trend coincides with trends of distribution of the Russian population even exceeding them. Thus, in 2015 74% of the population lived in the cities.

Despite the statistics limits, we have made calculations of direct demographic losses of the Russian Federation as a result of emigration. According to our estimates, the number of immigrants for permanent place of residence over the period from 1994 to 2014 is 3.1 million people, including 1.1 million women and 1.1 young people. Demographic losses as a result of temporary labor emigration in 1994-2013 were 1 million people, including 130 thousand women and 303 thousand young people. Total demographic losses as a result of emigration from Russia in 1994- 2014 years (excluding labor emigration in 2014) were 4.1 million people, including 1.2 million women and 1.4 million young people. Thus, emigration of young people has the serious demographic impact for the country.

CONCLUSION

Analyzing the impact of emigration of young people on socio-economic and demographic processes in Russia, most of scientists and experts share one view that emigration of young people for permanent place of residence is a negative phenomenon that undermines demographic and socio-economic security of the country. In the face of the demographic crisis, the loss of educated part of the population of active reproductive and working age is the grievous loss for the country. Demographic losses are expressed both in the decreasing number of the population and potential losses from the reduced implementation of the reproductive potential. Moreover, the reducing number of young people also causes economic problems connected with the reduction of some segments of the consumer market, the educational services market, revenue receipts and so on. A social aspect should be also noted. The society with not many young people often loses social optimism and the dynamics of development.

In all negative assessment of the emigration outflow for permanent place of residence of young people abroad, nowadays countermeasures cannot be direct. Government agencies should understand that it is possible to prevent the outflow may not by prohibitions, but by changing social and economic conditions for young people to realize their life and labor potential in Russia. First of all, there is the need for changing the value of education which should be measured by high wages. Unfortunately, young people, who have graduated from universities in Russia, do not see any prospect for working in their field, do not feel themselves in demand and do not get respectable wages. There is the need for increased payment for labour in industries which support the outflow of highly skilled specialists abroad such, first of all, as education and science. The arrangement of conditions for professional growth and development and young professionals being in demand in the labor market will not only prevent the outflow of young people abroad, but also will attract young people, who have earlier emigrated back to the country.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The research was carried out at the expense of grant from the Russian Science Foundation (Project No. 16-18-10435 “Emigration from Russia and the formation of Russian-language communities: new trends, social-demographic and economic consequences”).

REFERENCES

Ryazantsev, S.V. (2014). New forms of temporary emigration from Russia / Science. Innovation. Technology. Scientific Review of the North Caucasus Federal University. - № 2. pp. 81-93.

- Ryazantsev, S.V. & Pismennaya, E.E. (2013). Emigration of scientists from Russia: “brain circulation” or “brain drain” / Sociological researches. - № 4. pp. 24-34.
- Ryazantsev, S.V. & Pismennaya, E.E. (2013). Integration of the “Russian-speaking” community in Australia / Population. - № 1. pp. 106-110.
- Ryazantsev, S.V. & Pismennaya E.E. (2012). Opportunities for statistical identification and evaluation of the “Russian-speaking” community integration (for example, Australia) / Scientific Review. Edition 2. Human Sciences. Scientific and Analytical Magazine. - № 6. pp. 58-64.
- Ryazantsev, S.V. (2010). New Russian Diaspora: conditions of its formation, identity and assimilation / Scientific Review: Edition 1 “Economy and Law”. - № 5. pp. 83-88.
- Ryazantsev, S.V. (2015). The Modern Russian-Speaking Communities in the World: Formation, Assimilation and Adaptation in Host Societies / Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences. - Vol. 6, No. 3, May 2015. Rome, MCSER Publishing. pp. 155-163.
- Ryazantsev, S.V. (2013). Migration from Russia to Australia and formation of a Russian Community / Canberra, Australian National University, College of Arts & Social Sciences. - Vol. 4, No. 5. pp. 98.
- Labor and Employment in Russia in 2003 (2004). M. Federal State Statistics Service.
- Labor and Employment in Russia in 2013 (2014). M. Federal State Statistics Service.
- The youth in Russia in 2010 (2011). M. Federal State Statistics Service.
- The RF Ministry of Education [Electronic resource] – Access mode: <http://www.usynovite.ru/statistics/2014/6/> (accessed date 28.01.2016).
- Number and migration of the population of the Russian Federation in 2014. M.: Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat).
- Rostovskaya, T.K. & Ryazantsev, S.V. (2015). Socio-demographic characteristics of the Russian youth / State Councillor. *International Journal of Research and Practice*. - № 2 (10). pp. 66-74.