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Features of migration trends between Kazakhstan and Russia

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Abstract

The article analyzes the features of the migration policy of Kazakhstan and Russia at the beginning of the XXI century via comparative qualitative research methods. As a result, emigration to Russia from Kazakhstan is growing at the expense of all representatives of all ethnic groups, the main of which are Kazakhs and Russians. In conclusion, the flows of labor migrants with a vector from Kazakhstan to Russia and from Russia to Kazakhstan will increase in the medium term, especially in connection with the formation of the Eurasian Economic Union.

Keywords: Migration policy, Trend, Ethnic composition.

Características de las tendencias migratorias entre Kazajstán y Rusia

Resumen

El artículo analiza las características de la política de migración de Kazajstán y Rusia a principios del siglo XXI a través de métodos comparativos de investigación cualitativa. Como resultado, la emigración a Rusia desde Kazajstán está creciendo a expensas de todos los representantes de todos los grupos étnicos, principalmente kazajos y rusos. En conclusión, los flujos de migrantes laborales con un vector de Kazajstán a Rusia y de Rusia a Kazajstán aumentarán en el mediano plazo, especialmente en relación con la formación de la Unión Económica Euroasiática.

Palabras clave: Política migratoria, Tendencia, Composición étnica.

1. INTRODUCTION

Almost a century and a half - from the 60s of the XIX century and the beginning of the XXI century, Kazakhstan and Russia were active participants in the migration processes. The scale of flows, their ethnic, gender, age, social composition, vectors and directions, the educational and cultural level of migrants changed. For more than a century, Kazakhstan has been a migration recipient, and since the mid-90s of the XX century has become a donor for Russia. Of course, the collapse of the once unified space and the formation of independent states became a catalyst for accelerating the migration outflow of the population from Kazakhstan (RATIH & VIKA, 1998). The stabilization of the country's socio-economic situation and the

exhaustion of emigration sources of the Russian-speaking population led to the formation of new migration trends.

Since 1995, Kazakhstan has begun to show a downward trend in the number of migrants traveling outside the country and, as a result, a reduction in the negative migration balance. Thus, the number of emigrants in 1999 decreased 2.9 times compared with 1994, and the negative migration balance more than tripled. In 1997-2000, the number of people arriving in Kazakhstan stabilized at the level of 37-40 thousand. The main migration outflow from Kazakhstan in 1999-2000, as before, was directed to the CIS countries (more than 77%), of which to the Russian Federation - 91% (RANGKUTI, 2014).

2. RESULTS

At the beginning of the new century, Kazakhstan's negative migration balance continued to persist with Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova. The ethnic composition of emigrants was dominated by Russians (over 55%), Germans (about 20%), Ukrainians (about 10%), Tatars (2.4%), Belarusians (2.1%). After the 1999 census, the amplitude of the migratory swing noticeably decreases. This was mainly due to the decreasing influence of external migration on the dynamics of the number of Russians (SUGIYONO, 2014; HASSAN ET AL., 2019).

Russian losses in 1999 were 75.7% provided by a negative migration balance and 24.3% - by a negative natural increase, in 2004, respectively, by 58.7% and 41.3%. Between 1999 and 2005, 409.2 thousand immigrants arrived in the republic for permanent residence, and 774.2 thousand emigrants left the country. The negative balance of population migration over this period amounted to 365 thousand people. Since 2004, for the first time in a long time, a positive balance of population migration has again developed in Kazakhstan. The migration population gain in 2005 amounted to 22,668 people and increased by 8.1 times compared to 2004. Since 2003, as a whole, with the CIS countries, the republic has had a positive migration balance, the value of which in 2005 amounted to 25,131 people (SUDJANA, 2000).

However, despite the positive balance of migration in general with the CIS countries, it continued to maintain negative values with the Russian Federation. Of the total number of migrants to the CIS countries, 92.8% of migrants emigrated to the Russian Federation. A positive factor was only a reduction in the emigration scale. Between 1999 and 2005, the migration loss with Russia decreased by 3.5 times. During this period, 40.2% of immigrants from the total number of immigrants from the CIS countries arrived in Kazakhstan (SUGIYONO, 2005).

Table 1 - Migration gain (loss) in the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan with the Russian Federation (people)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
CIS countries	-80779	-73247	-51077	-31111	11521	14902	25131
Russian Federation	-81396	-84783	-71420	-58294	-23886	-25650	-23476

Among the arrivals to Kazakhstan in 2005, the largest share was held by Kazakhs, they accounted for 77.3%, Russians - 13.1%. The number of Kazakh immigrants in comparison with 1999 increased by 5.3 times. Of the number of people who left outside Kazakhstan, the proportion of Russians was 62.4%, of Kazakhs - 5.5%. The number of Russian emigrants in comparison with 1999 decreased by 2.8 times.

In this regard, the main reasons for emigration can be considered not only a combination of unfavorable economic and political factors, but also a pronounced vector of the migration movement - to the countries of Europe, and this process is typical for migration flows from all Asian countries. In the interdecadal decade (1999-2009), the migration situation in the country changed dramatically, which was determined, first of all, by a sharp decline in emigration. Since 2004, Kazakhstan has turned from a migration donor into a recipient. In 2007, there was a tendency to reduce the positive

balance of external migration, with a more significant contribution to its formation being made by decreasing immigration.

Table 2 - External migration of the Kazakhstan population in 1999-2009, thousand people

	Arrived	Departed	Migration gain (loss)
1999	41,3	164,9	-123,6
2000	47,4	155,7	-108,3
2001	53,5	141,7	-88,2
2002	58,2	120,2	-62,0
2003	65,6	73,9	-8,3
2004	68,3	65,5	2,8
2005	74,8	52,1	22,7
2006	66,7	33,7	33,0
2007	53,4	42,4	11,0
2008	46,4	45,3	1,1
2009	42,3	34,4	7,9

The evolution of immigration in the 2000s was most influenced by flows from the countries of Central Asia and Mongolia, formed from representatives of the Kazakh diaspora in these states. Emigration, as before, was determined by Russia. Migration flows

were still ethnic in color: Kazakhs determined immigration trends, and Russians - emigration (Table 3). In recent years, the immigration activity of the Kazakhs has declined; in 2009, Russian emigration also became less intense.

Table 3 - External migration by ethnic group, thousand people
By country, the bulk of emigrants continued to go to Russia.

Ethnic groups	2007			2008			2009		
	arrived	departed	balance	arrived	departed	balance	arrived	departed	balance
Kazakhs	41,8	2,3	39,5	35,1	2,3	32,8	30,9	2,0	28,8
Russians	6,7	29,5	-22,8	6,3	31,6	-25,4	6,1	23,5	-17,4
Ukrainians	0,6	3,4	-2,8	0,6	3,7	-3,0	0,6	2,7	-2,1
Germans	0,5	3,0	-2,5	0,5	3,1	-2,6	0,4	2,1	-1,7
Others	3,9	4,3	-0,4	3,9	4,6	-0,7	4,3	4,0	0,3
Total	53,4	42,4	11,0	46,4	45,3	1,1	42,3	34,4	7,9

Table 4 - Migration of the population of Kazakhstan with Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine in 2006-2009

	2006			2007		
	arrived	departed	balance	arrived	departed	balance
Total	66731	33690	33041	53397	42435	10962
CIS countries	56432	30265	26167	42540	39760	2780
Belarus	148	623	-475	136	805	-669
Russia	15001	28228	-13227	10966	37704	-26738
Ukraine	371	535	-164	287	539	-252

	2008			2009		
	arrived	departed	balance	arrived	departed	balance
Total	46404	45287	1117	42273	34365	7908
CIS countries	31323	42401	-11578	32867	32127	740
Belarus	171	694	-523	137	711	-574
Russia	9769	41159	-31390	9335	30485	-21150
Ukraine	298	378	-80	273	322	-49

As we can see, the negative balance of migration persisted with Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. At the same time, for obvious reasons, it had the highest values in exchange with the Russian Federation. However, there was a clear downward trend, since, according to Russian experts, the migration potential of the Russian-speaking population in Kazakhstan has practically dried up. However, in 2011, the migration balance for a long time, which had a positive value, became negative again, in 2012 it reached - 1381, in 2013 there was a decrease in the negative balance to -382. Moreover, almost all of the negative value amounted to the balance with the CIS countries, primarily with Russia.

So, according to the calculations made according to the Federal State Statistics Service of the Russian Federation, the migration balance of Kazakhstan in 2013 reached -40156. The dynamics of the migration balance is graphically presented in Fig. 1.

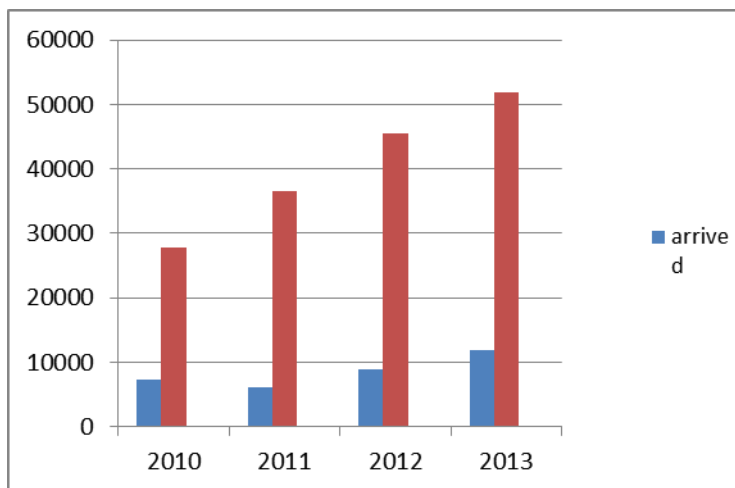


Fig. 1 - Arrived and departed in the Republic of Kazakhstan from the Russian Federation in 2010-2013

As can be seen from the above data, despite the steady increase (except for 2011) of those who arrived in Kazakhstan, the number of those who departed was growing at a much faster rate, and at the same time, constantly. In 2010, 7329 people arrived, 27862 departed, in 2011 - 6176 arrived, 36474 departed, in 2012 these indicators were 8843 and 45506, in 2013 - 11802 and 51958 people, respectively. As for the national composition of migrants, the Committee on Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan provides these data in a general, not a country context, and the Federal State Statistics Service of the Russian Federation does not take into account nationality, but citizenship of migrants. Therefore, it is not possible to clarify the number of migrants by ethnicity. In this regard, we restrict ourselves to the simple presentation of data from two statistical services. According to

preliminary data for 2014, 343,447 arrived in Kazakhstan and 334,529 Kazakhs departed, the migration balance is positive and amounts to 8,918. Russians emigrated in 2014, 62,718 people, and 45,246 immigrated, the migration balance is negative, -17 472. Moreover, among emigrants, Kazakhs make up 77.0%, and Russians - 14.4%. Among immigrants - 81.3 and 10.7%, respectively. These are the two largest flows of migrants. The Federal Service of the Russian Federation among 482,241 arrivals in 2013, 28,529 people call citizens of Kazakhstan, and among 47439 departed - 4561. At the same time, the number of citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan arriving in the Russian Federation is constantly growing: from 1150 people in 2008 to the already mentioned 28,529 people in 2013.

3. DISCUSSION

The largest migration flows are represented by Russians and Kazakhs. If at the end of the XX century Russians dominated emigration, then in the first 13 years of the new century, Kazakhs came to first place, accounting for almost 80% of emigrants. At the same time, the migration balance of the Kazakhs has positive values, then among the Russians, it continues to be negative. Of course, not only Russians and Kazakhs but also representatives of other ethnic groups actively participate in emigration. Although it is not entirely correct to compare disparate data, nevertheless, they allow us to trace the general trend - emigration to Russia from Kazakhstan is growing at

the expense of all representatives of all ethnic groups, the main of which are Kazakhs and Russians. Immigration most likely also consists of these two ethnic groups. Moreover, the number of migrants is determined, first of all, by labor migration.

4. CONCLUSION

Thus, at the present stage, migration trends between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation are determined, first of all, by labor migration. And the flows of labor migrants with a vector from Kazakhstan to Russia and from Russia to Kazakhstan will increase in the medium term, especially in connection with the formation of the Eurasian Economic Union.

Long-term trends are determined by the estimates of the International Organization for Migration - a continuation of the most powerful migration processes. The scale of migration processes, their impact on the socio-economic situation in Kazakhstan will increase. The importance of external migration, which played an important role in the process of population formation in the twentieth century, is now minimized. Migration sentiments of the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan are realized, basically, by representatives of the Kazakh ethnic group.

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