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**AGGLOMERATION IN THE CONDITIONS  
OF AN INTENSIFICATION OF MIGRATION PROCESSES  
(example of the Volgograd region)**

## АГЛОМЕРАЦІЯ В УМОВАХ ІНТЕНСИФІКАЦІЇ МІГРАЦІЙНИХ ПРОЦЕСІВ (на прикладі Волгоградської області)

**Summary:** We recognize the influence of this situation on the development of agglomerations.

**Key words:** migration, social agglomeration, human resources.

**Анотація:** У статті розглядається динаміка міграційних процесів, піднімається проблема відтоку кваліфікованих трудових ресурсів з регіонів. Відзначено вплив сформованої ситуації на розвиток агломерацій.

**Ключові слова:** міграційні процеси, соціальна агломерація, трудові ресурси.

The trend toward integration in the modern world increases the interdependence of individual countries, regions and cities significantly. The movement of various economic resources, including human resources becomes simpler. This is reflected in the migration processes that implement the desire of people to move to regions with a higher standard of living. The intensification of these migration processes leads to a slower development of social and entrepreneurial agglomerations and influences the economic performance of individual regions [1; 2; 3].

International migration caused by overpopulation and lack of job offers in some underdeveloped areas, has now reached unprecedented proportions. Major cities, regional centers, demonstrating a high level of demand for human resources are of greatest interest to workers in this situation [1; 2; 4]. Sustainable migration trend determines the focuses of the migration policy associated with the legal situation of migrants, their labor and social integration.

Let us consider the problem of labor migration based on the example of Volgograd and Volgograd region. Migration processes in Volgograd region

deserve close attention and analysis because they can show problems in a number of Russian regions.

According to statistics, reflected both in official sources and in the media and on news sites, people from countries such as China, Armenia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Vietnam, Azerbaijan come to the region. The main aim of migrants is employment, which may be attributed to low living standards and wages in their country of origin. At the same time there is a regional outflow of the population in general in Volgograd.

The impacts of migration on the changing patterns of the urban population, the aging of residents are reflected in the works of the team of authors under the leadership of N. V. Dulina [5] and in the research by J. E. Ignatova and N. A. Nikolenko [6].

According to the results of national population census, reflecting the state on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2010, the permanent population of Volgograd region amounted to 2,6102 thousand people. Due to this indicator Volgograd region occupies the nineteenth place in Russia and third place in the southern Federal district. In comparison with census of 2002 the population of Volgograd region has decreased by 89.1 thousand people: in urban centers – by 46 thousand people, in rural areas – by 42.6 thousand people.

In comparison with census of 2002 the population of Volgograd region has declined in 5 cities of regional subordination and in 30 administrative districts of Volgograd region. The most significant population decrease occurred in Staropoltavskij area (13,8%), Danilovskij (12,6%), Frolovskij (12,5%), Nekhaevkij (11,7%), Novonikolaevskiy (11,3%), Kotovskij (10,9%), Otyabrskij (10,6%) and Novoanninskiy (10.3 %), where, in the intercensal period there was a natural decline and population outflow.

During the period from 2002 to 2010, the population increased in Srednehtubinskij (6,5%), Gorodishchenskij (5,0%), Kotelnikovo (2,0%) areas and in the satellite town of Volzhsky (0,9%) [7].

So, according to the presented data, the increase in the population is noted only in four administrative districts of Volgograd region, and the population decline is much more intense. In addition, there is a clear trend towards reducing the number of rural settlements in connection with the reduction in the number of people living in them.

This trend is not favorable as it leads to the decline of key sectors of the economy, connected with rural population: agriculture, crop production, animal husbandry, etc. The reason for this could be poor equipment and low standards of living in rural areas.

General statistics of demographic, economic and social indicators over several years allows to reveal some regularities characterizing the specificity of the region.

As evidenced by the Rosstat in recent years in Volgograd region there is a consistent negative situation in respect of migration [8]. There is a significant outflow of human resources to other regions and countries, and every year the number of people who left the region increases [9].

The dynamics of migration loss of population in the region is clearly demonstrated in the following graph:

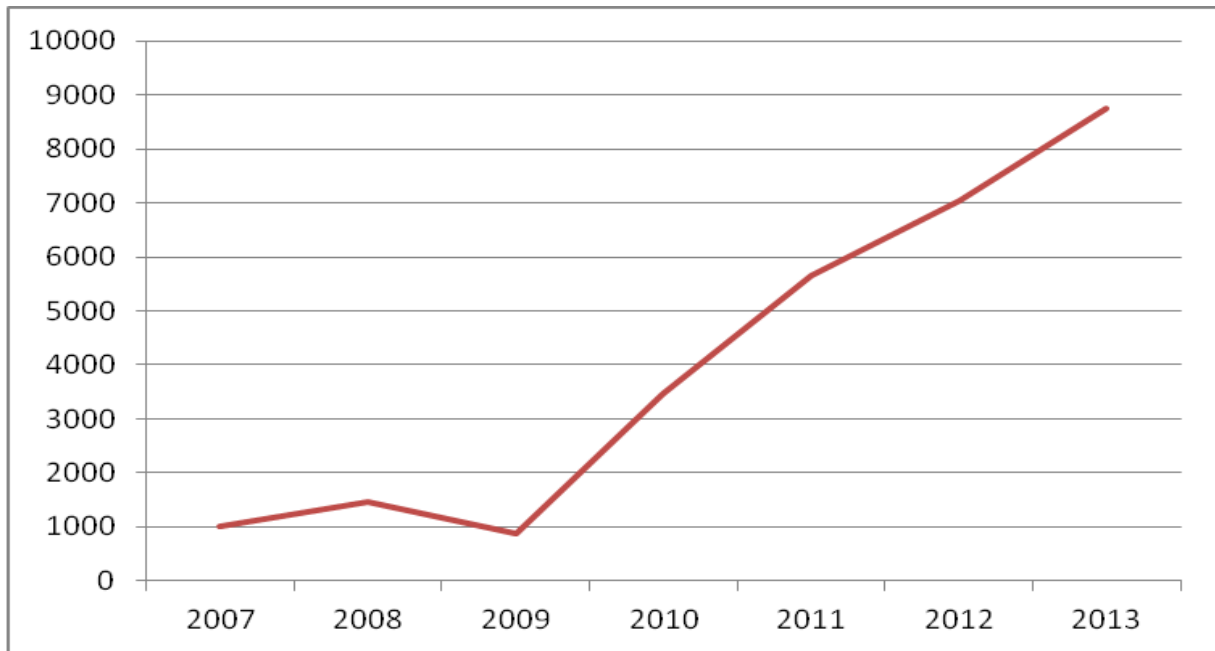


Fig. 1. The migration decrease of population in Volgograd region 2007-2013 (people/year)

The main causes of this process are: low wages [12]; critical environmental situation; low level of infrastructure development, as well as poor overall employment opportunities and valuable leisure [10]. In the region it is more difficult to find a decent job with reasonable wages, areas of health, education, transport networks and urban space development in general are underdeveloped.

In Volgograd there is also a tendency of outflow of high-qualified staff personnel to regions with a higher quality of life and higher wages. The outflow is compensated for by the inhabitants of rural areas and regions with an even more difficult economic situation.

On the basis of official statistics of Volgograd and Volgograd region, we claim that there is a reduction of rural population compared to urban population, there is a clear tendency to out-migration from the region, mostly people of working age are leaving.

At the same time, we cannot say that in this period there was a reduction in both nominal and real incomes of the population. Nominal monetary incomes

of the population during the period from 2008 to 2012 increased by 1.5 times. According to revised Rosstat estimates in 2013 per capita monetary income per month per capita amounted to 17589,6 rubles (in 2008 – 10833,5 rubles) [12], in 2008 average monthly nominal wages of employees in the economy reached 12001,8 rubles, and in 2013 – 21045,9 rubles, i.e. increased by 175%. Real household disposable income in 2012 compared with 2008 increased by 8.9%.

However, compared with the average level of the nominal average monthly wage across Russia, which amounted 17290,0 rubles in 2008, and in 2013 29792,0 rubles [12], showing increase at 172%, you can see that the absolute values of wages in the region are significantly lower at comparable growth rates.

The highest salary is noted in the Central Federal district, northwestern Federal district, Urals and Far Eastern Federal district.

Finally, at the moment, there is an accurate question of finding-out causes of labor migration and measures to retain skilled workers, and attracting additional human resources to the region.

A disturbing trend which emerged in relation to labor migration is associated with the outflow of highly qualified specialists, and in the near future this may become an acute problem for further development of the region. In our opinion, the administration of the city and region should pay attention to the economic and environmental situation in Volgograd, as well as to the city development, the quality of its infrastructure in order to increase the attractiveness of the region for skilled labor and to change a negative migration trend to a positive one.

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