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EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE BUCHAREST-ILFOV REGION

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Abstract: *This paper aims to achieve a study that consisted of research, analysis and interpretation of statistical data, in conjunction with theoretical aspects that allowed regional assessment of information on the structure of employment and unemployment in the Bucharest-Ilfov Region. Bucharest-Ilfov Region still remains the one with lowest ILO unemployment rate nationwide. It has fluctuated quite a bit in 2006-2010, around 4%, with the exception of 2008 when it fell sharply by almost a percentage to return a year later), value that increased in 2010 to 4.7; since 2011, it recorded an increase of 5.4% reaching 6.3% in 2012.*

Key words:

INTRODUCTION

Making demographic studies is a fundamental tool needed for the development of programs and economic and social development strategies. One such study conducted at the regional level is used in the definition and development options and sectorial development programs in the fields: economic, social, education, health, transport, tourism, etc.

To substantiate the economic and social development programs it is necessary to know the evolution of labor resources and the workforce, very important is the observation of these phenomena and bringing them to the attention of policy makers in order to prevent the negative effects that these demographic processes determine.

The purpose of the present paper is that based on the data provided by the National Institute of Statistics, to achieve regional assessment of information on employment and unemployment in the Bucharest- Ilfov Region.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Data were collected through public institutions, including the National Institute of Statistics and Statistics County Department of Ilfov.

The study was to research, analyze and interpret statistical data. These, in conjunction with theoretical aspects extracted from the literature, allowed assessment of regional information on population structure in the Bucharest-Ilfov Region.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Bucharest-Ilfov is the most important region in terms of the share of employed civilian population (14%) and the number of employees (about 21%). Also, unemployment values are consistently the lowest of all regions.

Table no. 1

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2009	2010	2011
Active population (thou people)									
Romania									
TOTAL	9090	8964	8796	8913	8930	9094	9150,4	9120,1	8826,5
Male	4738	4751	4641	4729	4728	4845	4919,2	4854	4645,5
Female	4352	4213	4155	4185	4202	4248	4231,2	4266,1	4181
Bucharest-Ilfov									
TOTAL	937	972	1009	1088	1156	1232	1302	1250,4	1248,9
Male	499	538	551	603,8	622,1	641,4	683,4	652	634,2
Female	438	434	458	484,1	533,4	590,7	618,7	598,4	614,7

Source: National Institute of Statistics, TEMPO-Online data series, data access 2013;

Active population of the Bucharest-Ilfov Region has seen a sharp increase in the last seven years, probably due to the increase of the general population in the area. If nationally in terms of

active population, the growth is insignificant, in the Bucharest-Ilfov Region it increased by 33% between 2002-2010. The increasing trend started in 2003, emphasizing significantly around 2009, however, for the first time in two years, appears a decrease of 6 percent in the active population, remaining still above the 2007 level.

For the activity rate, for Bucharest-Ilfov Region there is recorded a similar trend, with growth of 7.9 percent between 2005 and 2011. According to AMIGO research, in 2011, the rate of activity in the region remained the highest nationally, probably because of population growth recorded in the region, by working age categories, and the decision of postponing retirement or returning to work, because of economic situation (crisis, etc.) and a series of legislative measures likely to stimulate activity. As in the rest of the country, the number of active male exceeded that of the females (retirement age for women is lower than that of men).

Table no. 2

Activity rate of labor resources (%)							
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Romania							
TOTAL	64,5	64,7	66	66,6	65,7	64,1	62,8
Male	66,6	66,2	68,1	69,3	67,9	66,2	64,2
Female	62,3	63,1	63,8	63,7	63,4	61,8	61,4
Bucharest-Ilfov							
TOTAL	73,1	77	81,8	86,2	82	80,4	81
Male	82,1	82,3	84,1	90,6	85,8	81,8	83
Female	64,3	71,6	79,4	81,8	78,2	79,1	79,1

Source: National Institute of Statistics, TEMPO-Online data series, data access 2013;

The employment rate of labor resources has, during 2005-2011, a constant evolution nationally, increased by approximately 1.9%, while the Bucharest-Ilfov Region increased by 21.8% in the same period. Bucharest-Ilfov Region concentrates 14% of total employment nationwide, having the highest rate of employment in Romania. Also in this area it is the largest share of employed population in urban areas, and the highest rate of employed population belonging to the age group 25-54 years. Regarding the level of education of persons employed in the labor market, the Bucharest-Ilfov Region also holds a national record: so easy to guess, the highest percentage of university graduates, given the higher education infrastructure in Bucharest.

Table no. 3

The employment rate of labor resources (%)							
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Romania							
TOTAL	57,7	58,8	58,8	59	58,6	60,4	59,6
Male	63,9	64,7	64,8	65,7	65,2	67,2	60,7
Female	51,5	53	52,8	52,5	52	53,5	58,4
Bucharest-Ilfov							
TOTAL	59,4	62,9	62,4	63,3	63,8	64,4	79,5
Male	65,9	69,5	69,6	66	65,5	79,8	81,5
Female	53,4	56,9	55,9	53,3	53	77,3	77,4

Source: National Institute of Statistics, TEMPO-Online data series, data access 2013;

Bucharest-Ilfov Region still remains the one with lowest ILO unemployment rate nationwide. It has fluctuated quite a bit in 2006-2010, around 4%, with the exception of 2008 when it fell sharply by almost a percentage to return a year later), value that increased in 2010 to 4.7; since 2011, it recorded an increase of 5.4% reaching 6.3 % in 2012. If the rest of the labor indicators show significant variations between activity and participation rates of females and males identified, and the rest of the country, for the ILO unemployment rate, Bucharest-Ilfov is one of the two regions in which these values are very close, differences being almost negligible. As for environment sourcing, this area is among those with the lowest ILO unemployment rate among urban areas, but at the same time, the highest among rural areas. This is probably due to the multitude of jobs available especially in the capital, together with the progressive abandonment of agricultural occupations in the rural area of Ilfov County and difficulties in finding a new job.

As for the ILO unemployment rate among young people (15-24 years), this is the highest and most worrying of the socio-demographic rates. Bucharest-Ilfov, it measured in 2012, about 22%, increasing from the previous year. Paradoxically, it is higher in urban areas than in rural areas, possibly due to the large number of young people who come to the capital to attend university after having difficulty in finding a job.

Table no. 4

Unemployment rate (%)							
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Bucharest-Ilfov Region	4,7	4,1	3,4	4	4,7	5,4	6,3

Source: National Institute of Statistics, TEMPO-Online data series, data access 2013;

Table no. 5

ILO youth unemployment 15-24 years (%)										
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	26.2	21.2	23.4	22.5	20.4	15.5	19.2	22.2	22.2	22.3
Male	28.7	25.3	26.4	24.4	24.8	14.2	20.2	23.5	23.4	21.5
Female	22.6	15.9	16.3	15.5	12.7	17.4	17.9	20.3	20.7	23.3
Urban	26.3	21.5	23.6	23.8	19.5	15.9	25.7	28.4	24	22.6
Rural	25.1	19.3	19	18.1	26.9	12.1	13.8	16.7	11.2	19.6

Source: National Institute of Statistics, TEMPO-Online data series, data access 2013;

This statistic shows that economic areas, that had the greatest need for new employees in the Bucharest-Ilfov Region, were in 2013, industry and health and social care. As for the few sectors where vacancies are available, they were the mining industry and real estate (probably amid the housing crisis).

Table no. 6

Job vacancies in Bucharest-Ilfov Region (2013)	
CAEN Rev.2 (activities of national economy)	Periods
	I st Trimester 2013
	Number
TOTAL	7099
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING	44
INDUSTRY	1149
MINING INDUSTRY	2
PROCESSING INDUSTRY	438
WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES	709
CONSTRUCTIONS	68
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTORCYCLES	467
TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	264
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS	157
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	409
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	304
REAL ESTATE	1
PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES	361
ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICE ACTIVITIES	482
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	1920
EDUCATION	183
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE	1092
ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION	117
OTHER SERVICES	81

Source: National Institute of Statistics, TEMPO-Online data series, data access 2013;

Of the total number of 4376 thousand qualified employees in Romania in 2012, a percentage of 21% is found in the Bucharest-Ilfov Region. This percentage is slightly higher compared to 2008, when the percentage was 20.9%.

Compared to the situation at the national level, the Bucharest-Ilfov Region has the largest number of employees in the same fields of activity, particularly economically important: industry, commerce and construction. However, the proportion of employees in each of these areas differs. Thus, if nationally in 2012, 29 % of the total number of employees were working in industry, at regional level, only 15% were working. In trade and construction, the Bucharest-Ilfov Region invested a higher proportion of employees (21 % and 9 %, compared with 17 % and 8 %). Other areas where the Bucharest-Ilfov Region allocated a higher percentage of employees than the national total are closely related to the quality that Bucharest holds as capital and financial center (percentage of employees in financial transactions (5%) is more than double that country level (2%) and in information and communications 7% (respectively 3%). Areas in which there is found a lower rate of employees than the national level are slightly paradoxical, education, health and (much more understandable) agriculture.

Regarding agriculture, the regional level is insignificantly represented (0.5%), but in Ilfov County it has a much higher share. The industry is also well represented in the County of Ilfov and in the light of removal outside Bucharest, of all large enterprises producing pollution. In the industry, the largest share is hold by the processing industry.

Table no.7

Average number of employees trained by fields (2010-2011)

	Romania	Bucharest-Ilfov	Romania	Bucharest-Ilfov
	Year 2010		Year 2011	
	Thousand people			
TOTAL	4376	918	4349	912
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING	95	4	98	5
INDUSTRY	1237	139	1259	133
MINING INDUSTRY	67	3	64	4
PROCESSING INDUSTRY	999	110	1028	105
PRODUCTION AND SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY, GAS, STEAM AND AIR CONDITIONING	73	12	70	12
WATER SUPPLY, SANITATION, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES	98	14	96	14
CONSTRUCTIONS	337	94	334	86
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE, REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTORCYCLES	752	187	753	187
TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	258	60	256	60
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS	109	23	108	24
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	106	62	110	64
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	101	45	99	45
REAL ESTATE	27	7	26	8
PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES	126	60	127	62
ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICE ACTIVITIES	181	67	198	74
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	210	40	193	39
EDUCATION	380	49	364	47
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE	366	53	333	51
ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION	53	16	51	15
OTHER SERVICES	39	10	39	11

Source: National Institute of Statistics, TEMPO-Online data series, data access 2013;

CONCLUSIONS

Bucharest-Ilfov Region concentrates 14% of total employment nationally, its overwhelming majority inhabiting the urban area. Also, it holds the highest share of university graduates among the active population in the country, Bucharest being a very important source of jobs and qualified personnel. In terms of employment, the Bucharest-Ilfov Region has the biggest advantage in Romania: both the activity rate as well as the employment one, still records the highest levels nationally and sustains an upward trend in recent years. The ILO unemployment rate is the lowest in the region. The distribution of these rates, however, is not uniform; activity and employment rates are lower for female population than for male and lower for rural areas than urban areas, the opposite is true for the unemployment rate (except the 15-24 age segment, where ILO unemployment is higher in urban areas). Also, the population aged 15 to 24 face the greatest difficulties in finding work, having the highest rate of ILO unemployment at regional and national levels.

As for the number of qualified employees, this region focuses around a fifth of the total country share, a slightly increasing trend. Of these, most work in areas most economically powerful: commerce, industry and construction.

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