

External Migration Development in the Kaliningrad Region in the 1990-2000th

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Abstract

The study is devoted to both international and interregional migration in the Kaliningrad region as one of the factors defining its demographic situation in the 1990-2000th. The study employed statistical analysis methods based on the calculation of absolute and relative indicators of migration. The primary data source for the estimates is the annual statistics of migrant inflows and outflows since 1992 delineated by the area of origin and destination provided by the Federal State Statistics Service in the Kaliningrad region. Analysis of the changes of internal migration revealed that its intensity as well as gross migration decreased significantly. It is notable that such reduction in intensity is more characteristic of the regions that traditionally had the largest migration flows with regard to Kaliningrad region; those are the Far East and Northern regions as departure areas, and the regions of the European part of Russia as arrival areas. The same decline is observed in external migration between the region and the CIS-countries, with only Armenia and Kyrgyzstan intensifying migration flows with the region.

Keywords: migration, net-migration intensity, migration space

1. Introduction

The Kaliningrad region stands out from the rest of the Russian regions in terms of the migration patterns development. Its population was formed by means of planned migration, which started in 1946 and reached its peak in 1950. Although the active settlement stage here is over, the region is still one of the leaders in net migration: in terms of the total gain per capita (including foreign arrivals) it takes the third place in Russia following Saint-Petersburg and Kamchatka Territory, and in terms of internal migration the region is on the eighth place. In this enclave region, external migration has always been a crucial factor for both balancing negative demographic trends and replenishing the regional labor resources. Over the last 20 years, the total migration gain has offset natural decrease in population. It accounted for 162.5 thousand people. Today the Kaliningrad region is on the fifth place in Russian rating of the regions with the population growing through migration. However, after the demise of the USSR migration space of the Kaliningrad region has changed significantly: migration flows have decreased, their geography has changed, and external migration has been transformed.

2. Theoretical Overview

Local researchers specializing in geography, history, law and economics have been studying the migration space of the Kaliningrad region since its foundation. Pr., Dr. of Geography G. Fedorov (see Fedorov, 2001) touches upon issues of population reproduction through migration in his studies of the formation of and forecasts of the population and labor resources in the Kaliningrad region. Ph.D. in Geography L. Emelyanova (see Emelyanova, 2006; Emelyanova..., 2008) and Ph.D. in Sociology E. Fidrya (see Fidrya & Emelyanova, 2014) focus their studies on social-economic aspects of migration along with qualitative characteristics of migrants. Issues of migration regulations in the region are considered in the studies by Ph.D. in Law A. Koss (Koss et al., 2009) and L. Emelyanova (see Emelyanova, 2006). Ph.D. in History E. Zimovina (see Zimovina, 2014) and L. Emelyanova (see Emelyanova & Kretinin, 2010) study transformations of the polyethnic structure of the Kaliningrad region induced by migration. The history of the settlement of the region and formation of its labor resources is a major preoccupation of the Dr. of History Yu. Kostyashov (see Kostyashov, 1998; Kostyashov, 2008). Economic aspects of migration are usually studied in relation to labor migration and its impact on the regional labor market. Researchers of this field include L. Emelyanova (see Emelyanova, 2005), O. Parfentseva (see

Parfenceva, 2005), A. Loseva (see Loseva, 2012). The peculiarities of the Kaliningrad Region migration field development together with the geography and demography of the population are studied by Mkrtychyan N.V., doctor of geographical science (see Mkrtychyan, 2011), and Tyuryukanova E.V., doctor of economic science (Tyuryukanova, 2008), representatives of a geographical scientific school of Moscow. However, as a rule Russian and foreign migration researchers do not focus on this westernmost region only but study it together with all the other Russian regions, although they never fail to emphasize the special migration situation of the Kaliningrad region.

3. Methodology

The paper employs statistical criteria that are generally accepted and most frequently used in migration analyses to evaluate migration transitions in the region. These are absolute and relative indicators gross migration, net migration, in- and out-migration. The diagrams of point distribution of areas of bilateral migration (with number of in- and out-migrants marked on the axes) visualize dynamics of intensity and effectiveness of migration flows between the region and other regions of Russia as well as CIS countries in 1992-2013. This approach solves several problems simultaneously:

- Estimate the importance of a specific partner area in the migration space of the Kaliningrad region in terms of in-, out- and net migration;
 - Compare country- and region-specific migration flows in terms of in-, outflows and net-migration.
- Scatter plots proved to be highly relevant for migration criteria analyses (see Hannu, 2001; Mitze, 2010).

4. Research Results

Annual external migration turnover has decreased by 24%, or 10.2 thousand, people since 1992 (Fig. 1). This decrease is a result of the decline in inflows from CIS, with the peak in 2003, and in-flow from other regions of the RF with the lowest rate in 2009 (Fig. 2). Inflows from non-CIS countries decreased almost thirteen fold. Interregional and international (CIS only) migration volume has been growing since 2011. However, this growth does not indicate saturation or recovery but simply reflects the changes in migrant statistics introduced in 2010. Starting 2011 migration figures include those temporarily residing with expected stay of at least 9 months.

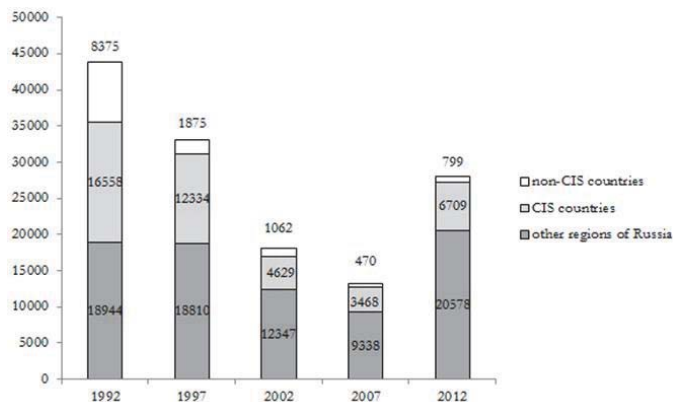


Figure 1. Migration flows between the Kaliningrad region and other regions of Russia and countries in 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007 и 2012, people

Based on: (Federal ..., 2014a)

At the same time, gross migration has undergone dramatic structural changes: the share of interregional migration increased significantly (from 43% to 70%), the share of flows with non-CIS countries has declined from 19% in 1992 to 3%, and share of migration turnover with CIS-countries decreased from 38% in 1992 to 28% (Fig.1). These are the results of major reduction of international migration.

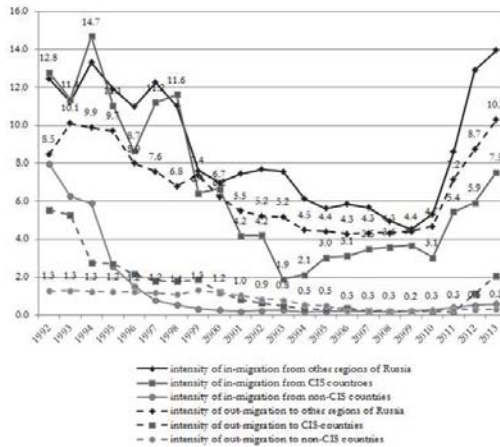


Figure 2. In- and outmigration intensity, person per 1000 people
Based on: (Federal..., 2004a; Federal..., 2008a; Federal ...,2012a; Federal..., 2014a; State...)

Although, interregional migration traditionally had the highest intensity in the Kaliningrad region, it is net international (CIS) migration that accounts for population growth in the Kaliningrad region, (Fig.3).

The external migration development in the region since 1992 two clearly-defined phases with provisional 20 years difference:

- The 1990-s (1992-2002): active phase of migration development with stalling at the end of the period;
- The 2000-s (2003-2013): smooth phase of migration patterns development with slight growth at the end of the period resulting from the changes in migrant statistical recording.

We consider this periodization to be logical and reasonable, as the first period began immediately after the demise of the USSR and was marked by emergence of migration within the former-USSR territory; while the second stage coincided with the transitional period of 1996-2002 with its dramatic economic changes (severe economic crisis of 1992 was followed by major economic growth) and changes in national and regional migration regulations (the Federal law of 1996 "On entry into and exit from the Russian Federation", the Resolution of the Governor of the Kaliningrad region of 1997 "On migration program in the Kaliningrad region for 1997-2000", the Federal Law of 2002 "On legal status of foreign individuals on the Russian Federation" and amended Federal Law "On the Russian Federation citizenship" etc.). Negative economic trends caused decrease in interregional and international (mostly CIS) migration from 1998 up to 2002-2003. At the same time, changes introduced into regulations of migration (especially forced migration) aimed at tightening visa and passport requirements and harmonization of the registration of foreign citizens and individuals without citizenship on border territories only aggravated the situation (see Fedotova & Shoiko, 2010).

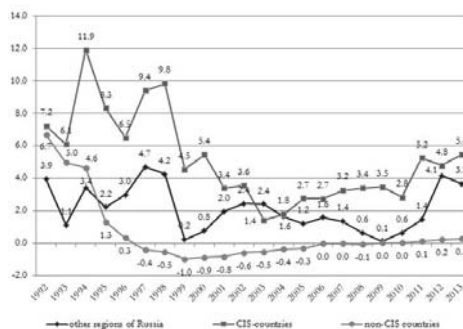


Figure 3. Intensity of external net-migration of the Kaliningrad region, people per 1000 people
Based on: (Federal..., 2004a; Federal..., 2008a; Federal ...,2012a; Federal..., 2014a; State...)

Here is a detailed analysis of the interregional and international (CIS) migration flows accountable for population growth in the Kaliningrad region driven by migratory increase in the 1990-s and the 2000-s.

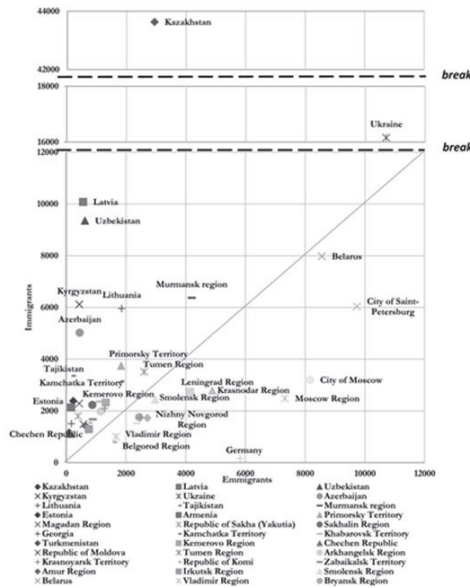
The 1990-s were the period of large-scale migration in the region: average inflow was 2.2 thousand people and average outflow was 1.1 thousand people. Over the period of 10 years 227.8 thousand people arrived to the region and 117.5 thousand people left the region. The Kaliningrad region was in the top-three regions for relative indices of migratory increase.

In the 1990s the process of the Kaliningrad Region migration field formation shared many features with the similar processes in the Russian Federation: refugees and forced migrants made up the major share of all the migrants. In 1992-2002, bilateral flows between the Kaliningrad region and former-USSR republics (71.6 thousand people) accounted for two thirds of migratory increase. The growth of population and labor resources was mainly contributed to by flows from Kazakhstan (32% of the total external migratory increase), Latvia (8%), Uzbekistan (7%), Kirgizia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Tajikistan and Baltic States (Fig.4). Major contributors from Russia were some regions of the Far East Federal District (Primorsk Territory, Kamchatka and Khabarovsk Territory, the Magadan and Sakhalin regions, the Republic of Sakha), the Murmansk and Kemerovo regions. During that period outflow to non-CIS countries and to other regions of the RF was significant. In the 1990-s, the most attractive destinations were Germany, Israel, Moscow, the USA and the most developed and comfortable regions of Russia (total of 20) - Moscow and the Moscow region, Saint Petersburg and the Leningrad region and the Krasnodar Territory. The flows with the above areas attributed for the major migratory losses.

In the 2000-s, with migration volume decreasing – average inflow of 1.2 thousand people from and outflow of 0.7 thousand to a partner area, the external migration geography changed (Fig.5). In 2003-2013, the inflow to the region decreased to 120.5 thousand people, it was a half of the previous decade's index, and the outflow was 68.2 thousand people. Decrease in migration put the Kaliningrad region down to the 8 place for relative indicators of migratory increase in Russia. However, the structure of migration in the region remained the same: in the first decade of the XXI century, 67% of total migratory increase was due to former-USSR member states – Kazakhstan, Kirgizia, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, the Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan. The implementation of the "State Program to Assist Voluntary Resettlement of Compatriots Living Abroad to the Russian Federation" (adopted in 2006) on the territory of the region keeps such migration geographical patterns and accounts for 75% of the regional net-migration in 2008-2012.

The characteristic feature of that period is loss of any significance by migration flows between the region and Baltic States – their share in total migration increase declined to 2%. The number of interregional flows with positive net-migration increased to 72 (from 62 in the 1990s), major partners were Far East District (Primorsky, Khabarovsk and Kamchatka Territories and the Sakhalin region), Siberian District (Altai and Krasnoyarsk Territory, the Omsk, Irkutsk, Kemerovo and Novosibirsk regions) and Northwestern District (the Murmansk and Arkhangelsk regions, the Republic of Komi).

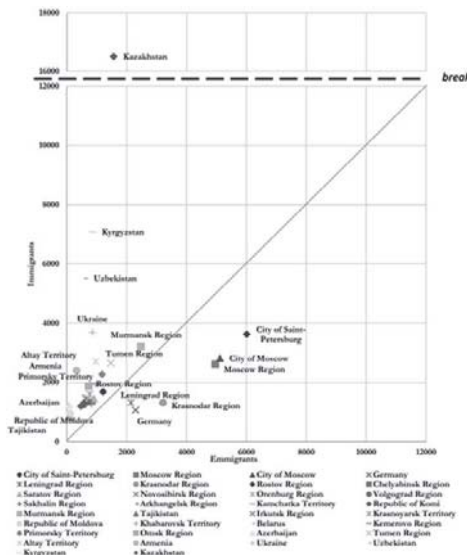
The negative net-migration mainly came from outflows to capital regions: Moscow, Saint Petersburg, the Moscow region and the Leningrad region. International migration (non-CIS) decreased and by 2013 they have become almost irrelevant: there was insignificant negative balance with Germany (till 2011), the USA and Canada (till 2009).



* Does not include areas with net-migration intensity of -0,5 – 0,5 person per 1000 people

Figure 4. Distribution of the major migration “partner” regions of the Kaliningrad region according to proportion of in- and outmigration 1992-2002

Based on: (State..., Federal..., 2001; Federal ..., 2002; Federal ..., 2003).



* Does not include areas with net-migration intensity of -0.5 – 0.5 person per 1000 people

Figure 5. Distribution of the major migration “partner” regions of the Kaliningrad region according to proportion of in- and outmigration 1992-2002

Based on: (Federal..., 2004b; Federal..., 2005; Federal..., 2006; Federal..., 2007; Federal..., 2008b; Federal..., 2009; Federal..., 2010; Federal..., 2011; Federal..., 2012b; Federal..., 2013; Federal..., 2014b).

5. Conclusion

Analysis of migration development in the Kaliningrad region in the 1990-s – 2000-s revealed that today migration is as important for the population size as it was 20 years ago. Over two thirds of migratory increase in the region is generated by immigrants from the CIS countries, the remaining part of it is generated by inflow from the Far East and the North of the country. Migration losses are attributed to interregional outflows to the capital regions of Russia, the Krasnodar Territory and international flows (non-CIS). However, over the last 20 years the migration space of the region has changed significantly. In the first decade of the XXI century gross migration volume has dropped primarily due to the lowering intensity of inflows from CIS countries and other regions of Russia and higher growing intensity of outflows to non-CIS countries. Secondly, the geography of migration transformed. As for the countries of the former USSR, there is a consistent trend towards "drying-out" of migration streams with Baltic States, Georgia, Ukraine, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Republic of Belarus, Azerbaijan and a trend towards "saturation" of migration streams with Armenia and Kirgizia. Interregional migration is mostly decreasing. The major areas of origin are the regions of Far East Federal District, the Murmansk region, the Leningrad region, the Republic of Chechnya and Zabaikalye Territory. The major destination areas are the regions of the European part of Russia (Central, Privolzhsky and Northwestern Federal Districts). Few regions had «full» migration flows with the Kaliningrad region in this period, those are primarily some regions of the Siberian and North-Caucuses Federal Districts. These transitions could not be brought by few isolated factors they were caused by a set of factors including social factors (changing quality and standards of living, development of social networks), demographic factors (decrease of potential migration observed in "partner" areas), economic factors (national and global economic crises) and political factors (reformation of national migration policy). Each of these factors could be considered as a separate research object.

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