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Social factors and features of the reproductive behaviour of the population of the Republic of Tatarstan

Khayrullina Yulduz Rakibovna, Khayrullin Raul Raphaelievich

a Kazan (Volga region) Federal University, 23/1. Ostrovskogo str., Kazan, 420111, Russia
b Kazan (Volga region) Federal University, 23/1. Ostrovskogo str., Kazan, 420111, Russia

Abstract

This article considers theoretical and applied aspects of demographic problem of birth rate, results of special social research, which provides reproductive state of popularity of the population on both state and regional levels, its peculiarities, factors, influenced on birth rate and government sanctions, directed to its stabilization. It includes results of empirical studies of the author’s research.

Keywords: Demographic problems; birth rate; reproductive states; having children; Tatarstan; region.

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +7-843-292-00-10; fax: +7-843-292-01-09.
E-mail address: iouldouz@narod.ru
Introduction
The article provides a comparative analysis of the results of empirical studies of the author’s research: the first "Implementation of the demographic development program of Republic of Tatarstan: problems and prospects" [5] was held within applied researches of the Center of Advanced Economic Research in the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan in the November-December 2007, the method of questioning was by quota sampling (N = 1100). Sample consists of respondents of 18 years old, proportions (gender, age, type of settlement) correspond to the basic socio-demographic characteristics of the population of the Republic of Tatarstan. The second research, "Reproductive preferences of youth in modern conditions" [4] was held in the Center of Advanced Economic Research in the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan from November 2010 to January 2011, the method of questioning by quota sample (N = 1100) of respondents aged from 14 to 29 years.

The purpose of research - to present the state and dynamics of demographic behavior in the republic, its structure and fertility factors, motivation of reproductive behavior of the population in general and of individual types of settlements, especially among individual age groups.

Discussion
According to the results (2007), the majority of respondents from all settlements believe that the situation with the birth in the republic is unstable and requires a number of actions to improve it. The most pessimistic are villagers 21.4% of them think that the situation is critical. At the same time, according to the respondents, the situation with birth rate over the past decade has improved and will improve in the next decade. Most part of respondents from the capital (41.7%) believe that the situation with birth will improve, next are respondents from other cities (32%) and last are the villagers (28.3%), although there are many who could not decide what to answer.

The majority of respondents in the republic consider the presence of two children (57.4% and 51.3%, respectively) as the best standard for their family and the families of their children. One child in their family would like to have 18.3%, and one child in the family of their children -24.8%. Would like to have three children themselves - 15.3%, and three children in the family of their children -14.4%.

Let us consider about reproductive preferences of the respondents of different age cohorts. The youngest is considered optimal to have two children (61.8%) want to have one - 15%, and - 12.7% to have three children. More restrained look preferences of 25 -34 year olds. Most prefer two children (54.1%) one child -24.9%; three children -14.1%. 35-44-year-olds have similar preferences. A 45 -54-year-olds also prefer two-child families (59.9%), 17% prefer one child and 17% prefer three-child family. Thus, the youth of the region prefer two-child family and one in ten prefer to have three children in their family.

The obtained data are similar to the results of other authors. As part of the study "Youth 2009" [1], presented in the materials of R. Akyulov and E. Akyulova "Problems of state regulation of the demographic behavior of the youth of the industrial region" (2009).

Results of this study shows that more than half of young people would like to have two children, and a third of them would like to have even three children. At the same time, the researchers noted that the expected number of children was much lower than desired. The majority of respondents in the next 5-7 years planned to have one or two children. Only 5% of respondents planned to have third child. And a fifth part of young women didn’t plan to have children in the next few years. This shows the inability of young people in the present socio-economic conditions to realize their relatively high reproductive attitudes.

This conclusion confirms the author's research data (2007). Young people aged from 18 to 24 years old in most planning the birth of the first or another child in the next year -5.3% in the next three years (18.7%), in terms of up to five years (23%). Have not decided yet 32.1% do not want to have children -2.7%. Respondents of 25 -34 years planning the birth of a first or another child in the next three years -23.7%, in terms of up to five years of -14.6% in the coming year -12.6%. Among this age cohort many found it difficult to answer -22.7%, and those who no longer want to have children -18.2%. The results of author’s research (2011): young respondents plan to have children in the following terms: in the next year 5.5% in three years - 12.9% in five years - 16.9%, more than 5 years - 18.1% 15.2% do not want children at all, 31.5% are not sure.

Interesting that the ideal of the average Russian family, in the respondents' opinion of the republic (2007) were as follows: two children (54.6%) or even three- child families (19.6%). One-child family was supported by 16.6% of respondents, childlessness -2.9%. The young respondents interviewed in 2011, are considered that it is necessary for
the normal average Russian family to have two children (53.4%), one child (32%), three children (16.7%), the more children, the better (13.6%), no children (10.9%), which shows an increase in young people's preferences as demographic values of childlessness and one child.

For the maintenance of high demographic behavior of the population of the republic, individual types of communities and various socio-demographic groups affects the hierarchy of factors, including the following external factors: economic instability, drug addiction, alcoholism; internal - low income families, and the absence or just a lack of living space, conflicts in marriage.

The most important role in the implementation of a modern model of demographic behavior, a change in fertility is played by such motives as a family (61.7%), way of life (54.4%), medicine (50.2). The most urgent problems for their family in modern conditions, respondents named the following problems: low wages (45.7%), housing problems (26.5%), conflict of generations (16.3%).

A major role in enhancing fertility motivation is the implementation of national programs in the sphere of demography, such as: an increase in benefits for child care (65.2%), the amount of benefits for pregnancy and childbirth (42.9%), assistance in obtaining housing for families with children (41.2%). The role of the "Maternity Capital" is not enough, only 30.7% are going to use it, 27% of respondents doubt in its reliability and guarantees. Advantages and disadvantages of the program, according to respondents: the amount is not enough to improve living conditions (19.1%) positive, but this is not enough (12.2%) cannot be cashed in case of need (10.8%), caring of people (10.8%), difficulty in processing and delivery (5.5%).

Among other social actions, motivating optimal demographic behavior and affect fertility, the following are important: reducing the share of payment of utility bills, depending on the number of children (56.1% of respondents); reduction in tax payments from parents (39%); providing free family vacation tours (36.5)%.

The necessary actions should also contain the following: actions to improve the atmosphere in family and family lifestyle; implementation of actions to promote the moral and family values, the formation of preferences to create a full, legally married families with two or more children (43.4%); the creation of centers for pregnant women and women with children who find themselves in difficult situations (34.4%); demonstration of social advertising on anti-alcohol and anti-drug themes, promote healthy lifestyles, spiritual and moral values (34.4%), and others.

In conclusion of the study, some basic propositions and conclusions can be made. In modern conditions the demographic behavior of the population has a multi-level nature, determined by a system of internal and external factors, which play a special role of the state population policy. According to results of the research, the external factors affecting fertility are the following: economic instability, drug addiction, alcoholism; among internal: low family income, absence and lack of living space, conflicts in marriage. In modern conditions the results of the implementation of the state program of demographic development in the region, population estimates, mainly as medium. In order to increase the birth rate the state should take the following steps: first, increase the amount of benefits for child care, then the amount of benefits for pregnancy and childbirth, assist in obtaining housing for families with children. This is especially true in the present conditions in the region, because of the specific reproductive behavior of young people, the mismatch between the desired and expected preferences on the number of children in the family. According to a survey, young people mostly prefer two-child family and one in ten prefer the three-child family. At the same time, at the time of the survey, each third respondents have not yet decided on the birth of children, every fifth do not want children, and even if they do, they plan to birth the child in five years or more. With regard to the needs of childbirth, almost a tenth of the respondents believed that the average Russian family can be childless, and nearly one-third believed that it can be one-childed, which also shows an increase value of families with low number of children families in recent years.

The structure of the reproductive behavior includes reproductive norms and values, attitudes and motives that are economic, socio-cultural and personal-psychological. The results of research revealed the following hierarchy demotivators of fertility: low wages, housing problems, conflicts generations. According to this information, actions that can increase motivation are following: increase benefits for pregnancy and childbirth; lump sum benefit at birth and a monthly allowance for the period to care for a child up to the age of one and a half years. Social and cultural motivators that are demanded: a decrease in the share of housing and communal services, depending on the number of children in the family; reduction in tax payments from parents; the creation of centers for pregnant women and women with children in difficult situations; providing free family vacation tours, promotion of moral and family values; the formation of fashion to create a full, legally married families with two or more children; promotion of
healthy lifestyles. So, it is indicative that additional social and cultural motivators of fertility are high demanded but not enough formulated by society and the government, while even such a strong economic motivator as "Maternity Capital" has not enough inspire power for people. Only a third part of young people are going to use this program, almost as many did not trust her.

In modern conditions Russia developed a basis of a holistic strategy of demographic policy, based on coordination and division of competences in the interaction between the federal, regional and municipal levels of government to implement it. So approved at the federal level, "Demographic Policy Concept of the Russian Federation until 2025", [3] contains the priorities, principles of demographic development, the mechanism of its implementation at various levels of government. It is being implemented in areas such as: social and economic support for young families and families with children, usage of Maternity Capital program, including the repayment of the loan for the purchase of living place, the regulation of child allowances.

At the regional level - the Republic of Tatarstan has a "Comprehensive program of demographic development of the Republic of Tatarstan until 2010 and up to 2030" [2] that is executed under the federal concept. The Program has a number of sub-programs and projects "Encouraging childbirth", "Empowerment of the Maternity Capital", "Expanding the use of mortgage of young families" and the establishment of the Family Code of the Republic of Tatarstan, which contains a number of new legal norms, including national specificity of Tatarstan, established a medal "Ana dany - Maternal Glory", which is awarded to the mother who gave birth and raised five or more children. Republican complex program of demographic development contain social, housing, educational and informational events: to increase possible ways to spend the Maternity Capital, for example to pay for treatment of children, increasing the possibility of using it for young families, increasing the criteria for inclusion of families in the category of "young family", the growth of compensation under the social mortgage in the case of the birth of a 2-nd and 3-rd child, the payment of compensation to parents for the child in the child care center, the implementation of targeted social support for people with children (baby food, medicines, school meals, child allowances, family travel tours, for housing, utilities services), housing large families, social support families who gave birth to three children at once.

The municipal level, within the republic, has various programs aimed at improving the demographic situation. Along with social, the most consistent today presented actions are: to stabilize the birth rate with the help of informatization of people - the creation of a data bank on disadvantaged families, monitoring the situation of large families; educational and promotional orientation - "Club of young family", "Occupation of my parents" excursions, Mother's Day, local history contest "SemYa" (Family) and others.

3. Conclusion

In the present conditions the different actors of control offered number of stabilization programs in fertility, which complement and elaborate federal measures of demographic policy. In the future, the optimization of the reproductive behavior of the population of the republic must be implemented comprehensively in all areas.

References


[2] Comprehensive program of demographic development of the Republic of Tatarstan until 2010 and up to 2030., Kazan; 2008

