

The Romanian Migration between Official and Unofficial

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Abstract

The phenomenon of migration is the focus of specialists' attention as a result of the amplitude, complexity and diversity of the effects that it generates. Romania started to face a widespread phenomenon of migration only after the fall of the communist regime even though it was present before that as well. This paper aims at presenting the official and unofficial situation of the internal and international Romanian migration in the period following 2000. The internal migration was approached from an overall perspective, by migration types, gender, age groups and regions. The international migration was analysed in terms of definite and temporary emigrations, immigrations, from an overall prospective, in terms of regions, destinations, distribution by gender and age groups.

Keywords: migration, official migration, unofficial migration, internal migration, permanent international migration, temporary international migration

1. Introduction

In the current context of economic globalisation, the migration of the population in general and especially of the labour force is an indisputable reality nowadays. Migration, however, has taken place since the ancient times and shall continue to occur in the future as well as long as the world will be divided into two big categories (rich and poor), while the gaps of economical development; the differences in living standards shall persist. At the same time, the reduced impossibility or possibility of satisfaction and the achievement of some needs and aspirations in the birth place/country of origin shall still generate the phenomenon of migration.

Lately, the literature from the country and abroad has abounded in many papers, studies, analyses, more or less extensive, dealing with the phenomenon of population and labour force migration. The specialists' attention was and will always be directed toward such a phenomenon thanks to many direct and indirect implications on the country of origin, the country of destination as well as on the migrant. The effects are equally positive and negative both at macroeconomic and microeconomic level.

Due to the great number of emigrants (unofficial statistical data consider that there are over 2 million Romanian emigrants), Romania has become one of the most important providers of the most valuable resources (Stoicovici, 2012: 435), (Stoiciu, 2011: 25), human resource which can be exploited on the external labour market. In contrast to domestic labour force, the external one constitutes a strong "magnet" for the Romanian labour force due to the multiple opportunities which it offers. The main beneficial markets are those from Italy and Spain, where seemingly over 1.7 million Romanians emigrated. The permanent input-output flows make impossible to know exactly the number of Romanian emigrants at a certain time. However, the statistical records of some host countries may offer us a certain image. For instance, the National Institute of Statistics in Spain offers figures concerning the Romanian immigrants.

In 2012, for instance their number was 798,970, with 25,848 residents more than in 2013 (http://www.ine.es/buscar/searchResults.do?searchType=DEF_SEARCH&tipoDocumento=&searchString=romanian+immigrants&SearchButton=Buscar).

At the same time, the Spanish statistics specify that the Romanians resident in Spain held a ratio over 15% of the total number of immigrants, thus, opening their list. Their ratio is extremely significant if we take into consideration that in 1998 Romanians summed up only 0.35% of the number of immigrants in Spain (2,258 persons). Many of the Romanian immigrants fell in the age group of 15-29 years and 30-44 years.

The phenomenon of the consistent population migration from Romania started immediately after the abandon of the communist regime, at the beginning of the 1990s. Changes of the Romanians' residence to abroad have been registered before as well, but these were not significant in number. The motivation for emigration has also suffered modifications. If before 1990, the majority of the emigrations were determined by the ethnic factor, after that year the main reason for emigration was the economic. Types, duration, destinations, social and economic status of the emigrations have also been reconfigured.

This paper is aimed at studying the Romanian migration from two perspectives: official (permanent and temporary) and unofficial (temporary). Further on, the official migration was approached from internal and international perspective. The official international migration was studied in terms of permanent and temporary migration. For the latter statistical data have been used registered at the Census of Population and Housing of 2011.

In the scientific approach of the phenomenon of migration we resorted to the official statistical data published on the site of the National Institution of Statistics of Romania but as well as to a series of statistical data published by the national institutions of statistics of the Romanian emigrants' some countries of destination. However, initially we wanted to outline an image as close as possible to the reality of the Romanian migration abroad, this was not possible precisely as a result of the lack of information in this sense. Furthermore, we reviewed the figures circulating along the years in the Romanian mass-media concerning the number of temporary emigrants.

2. Official Migration

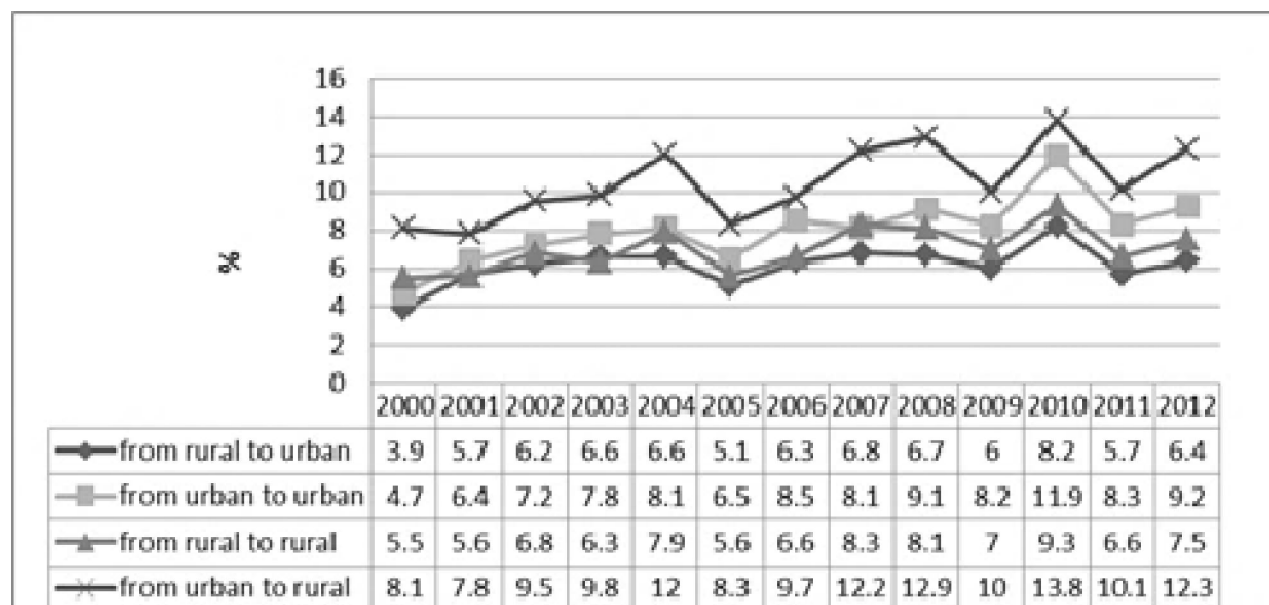
From geographical perspective, the migration of population takes two forms: internal and external/international migration. Taking into consideration this aspect, in the following we shall focus on the two forms of the migration registered in Romania.

2.1. Internal Migration

Romania faces a phenomenon of massive population migration (Suditu, 2013: 21). The Romanian migration is being felt not only at international but also at national level. The differences registered in the level of economical development of the Romanian regions have generated important migrations in the last years which, together with the negative increase of the population have led to the phenomenon of population aging or depopulation of some areas of the country.

Spectacular growth of internal migration has been registered at the beginning of the 1990s, as a result of the introduction of some legislation allowing the persons' freedom of movement. If in 1985 the internal migration rate was of 8.6‰, in the course of 5 years this has come to reach 33.9‰. In the period between 1989-1996, the internal migration took place mainly in the direction rural-urban. After this period, however, a change took place in the direction of internal migration into urban-rural (Suditu, 2013: 27).

The analysis carried out below covered the period after the 1990s, more precisely 2000-2012.

Figure 1: Rates of Internal Migration

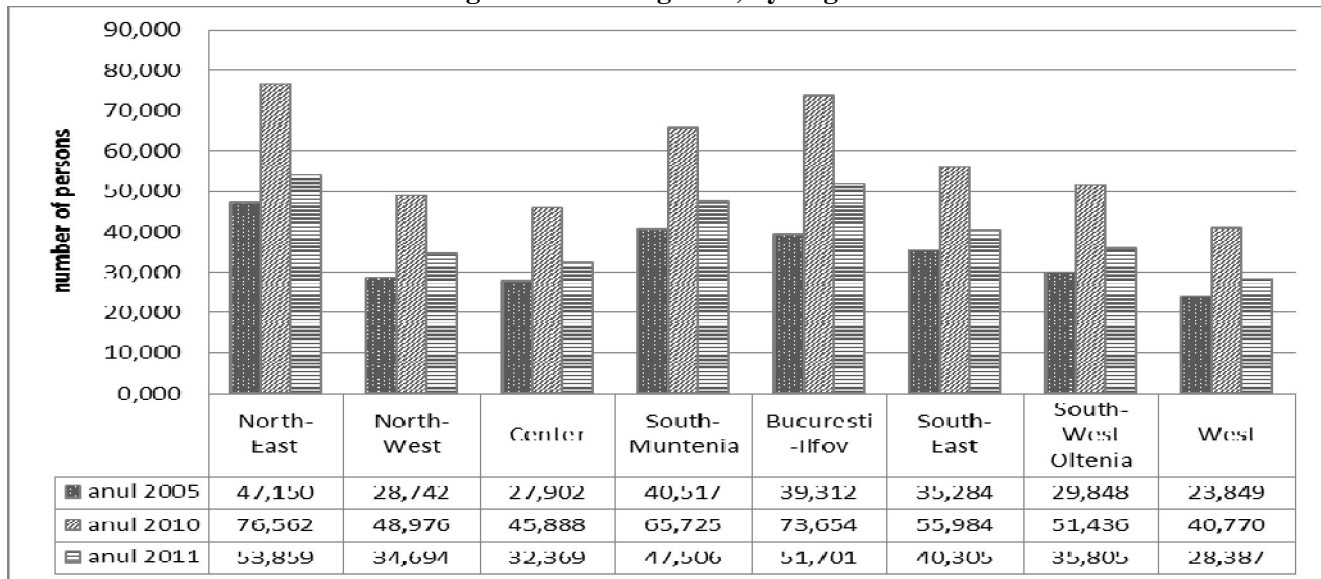
Source: the graphs was made by the author from statistical data available on: www.insse.ro

As it can be noticed as well in the chart no. 1, the majority of internal migrations occurred in the direction urban-rural. These were predominant in the entire analysed period. The lack of jobs, the financial difficulties, the reduced possibilities to ensure the daily necessity shaped this type of the majority of the internal migrations. The maximum rate of urban-rural migration was achieved in 2010 (13.8%), while the minimum rate in 2001 (7.8%). Further on, changes in residence took place even between urban and rural areas. These two types of internal migrations took alternatively the second place from the point of view of migration rates. The maximum and minimum values registered for the rural-rural type of migration were 9.3% (2010) and 5.5% (2000), while in the case of interurban migration these values were 11.9% (2010) and 4.7% (2000).

The internal migration can be followed at regional level, in term of departures, arrivals and balances. In order to highlight these population movements statistical data from 2005, 2010 and 2011 were used.

Thus, at the level of the entire period, we notice that the maximum number of departures was registered in 2010 and this corresponds to the North-East Region (76,562 persons). Moreover, the North-East Region is one of the poorest regions of the country. According to the paper „*The results of the documentary analysis. The regional development sector*”, in 2010 the North-East Region registered the lowest level in the country of the GDPs per capita, of 3,400 Euros, and in 2011 the lowest density of the business units by 10,000 inhabitants, that is 127.

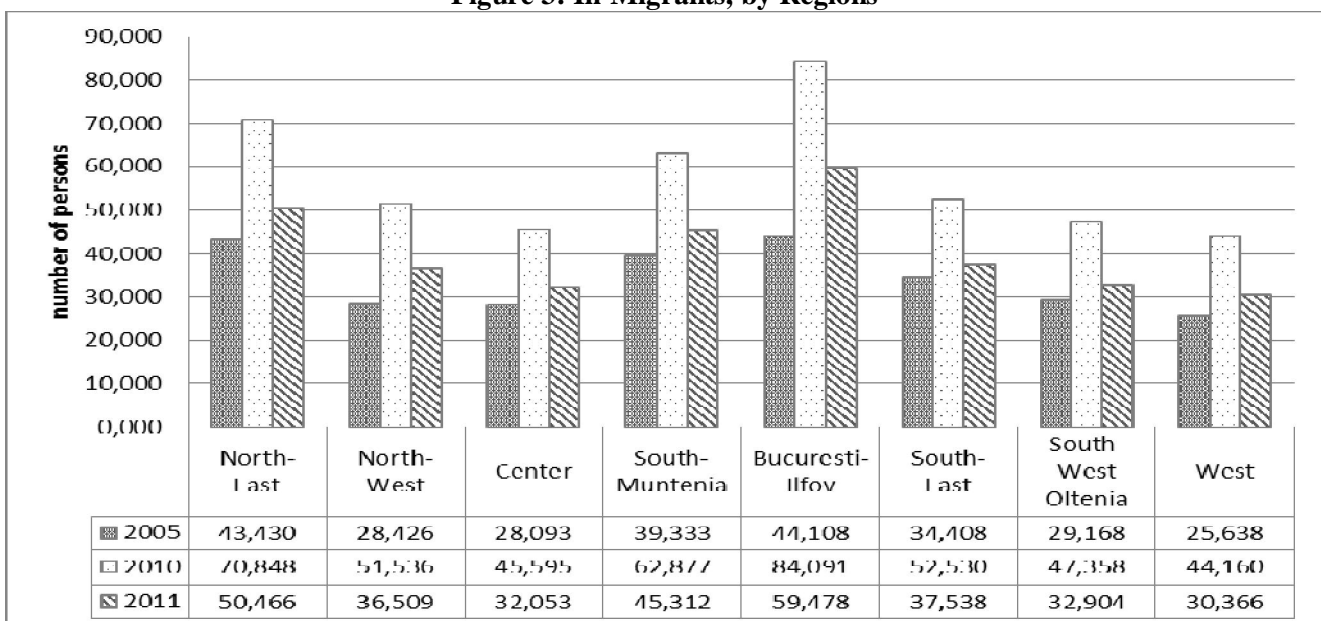
If, however, we analyse each year separately, we notice that the first and the last place are permanently occupied by the North-East Region and the West Region. The second place however is disputed between the South-Muntenia Region and București-Ilfov Region.

Figure 2: Out-Migrants, by Regions

Source: the graphs was made by the author from statistical data available on: www.insse.ro

If in the case of departures at the top of the list we find the North-East Region, in the case of arrivals the situation is changed. In the first place, the most arrivals can be noticed in the case of Bucuresti-Ilfov Region, a region considered to be the most attractive due to the fact that the highest level of economic development in Romania is registered here. The paper, *The results of the documentary analysis. The regional development sector* specifies that in 2010 the GDP per capita for this region was 13,000 Euros (the highest in the country), the amount of the direct foreign investments in 2011 was 61.7% of the total, while the density of the companies was the highest in almost all the sectors of activity (495 business units by 10,000 inhabitants in 2011).

Surprisingly, the second place was occupied by the North-East Region, considered one of the less strongly developed regions of Romania. The last place belongs, however, as well to the West Region. For all the period, the highest number of arrivals registered at the level of the entire period was 84,091 persons (2010), while the lowest number of arrivals was noticed in the case of the West Region (25,638 persons).

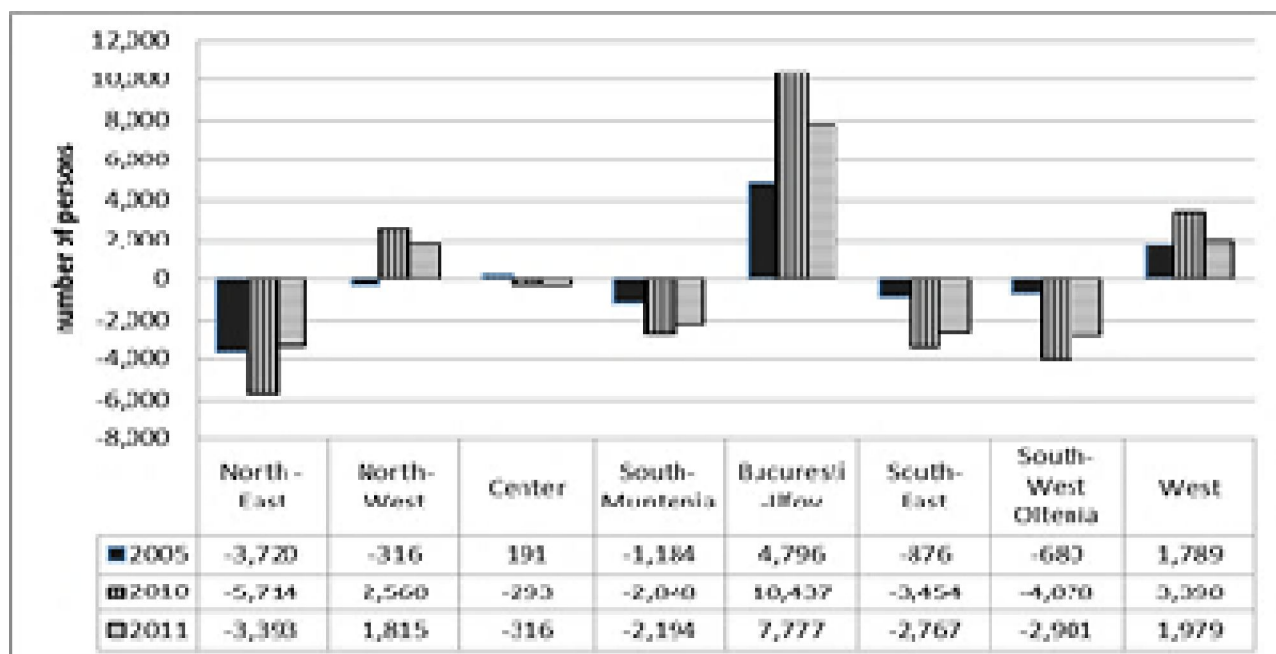
Figure 3: In-Migrants, by Regions

Source: the graphs was made by the author from statistical data available on: www.insse.ro

The chart below highlights the balance of the internal migration at regional level. According to the statistical data, only two regions have constantly positive balances (București-Ilfov Region and West Region), two regions register both negative and positive balances (North-West Region and Central Region), and four regions register only negative balances (North-East Region, South-Muntenia Region, South-East Region, South-West Oltenia).

The highest positive balance belongs to București-Ilfov Region (10,437 in 2010), and the lowest positive balance belongs to the Central Region (191 in 2005). The highest negative balance belongs to the Central Region (-293 in 2010), while the lowest negative balance belongs to the North-East Region (-5,714 in 2010).

Figure 4: Balance Internal Migration, by Regions



Source: the graphs was made by the author from statistical data available on: www.insse.ro

The distribution by gender of the internal migrations by the three years applied to the study reveals the predominance of the female migration both in terms of the number of arrivals registered in urban and rural area and the number of departures in urban and rural area.

Tabel 1 Internal Migration Determined by Permanent Residence Changing, by Area and Sex

Anul	In-migrants Male (%)			In-migrants Female (%)			Out-migrants Male (%)			Out-migrants Female (%)		
	total	in urban area	in rural area	total	in urban area	in rural area	total	from urban area	from rural area	total	from urban area	from rural area
2005	44.36	43.78	44.94	55.64	56.22	55.06	44.36	46.34	41.66	55.64	53.66	58.34
2010	45.08	44.46	45.75	54.92	55.54	54.25	45.08	47.18	41.98	54.92	52.82	58.02
2011	45.00	44.05	45.97	55.00	55.95	54.03	45.00	47.24	41.67	55.00	52.76	58.33

Source: calculations based on INSSE data

The distribution by age group of the arrivals registered in 2005, 2010, 2011 highlights the fact that in general, the internal migration of the population aged 20-39 years dominates, followed by the age group under 19 years. Cumulated, the two age groups register a ratio of over 70% of the overall arrivals both in terms of urban and rural areas. Similarly, in the case of departures the internal migration of population aged 20-39 years dominates. These are followed in 2005 by those corresponding to the age group of 40-59 years for the urban area and of the population under 19 years for the rural area. In 2010 and 2011 both for urban and rural area the second place is taken by the departures of the population from the age group of 19 years.

Tabel 2: Internal Migration, by Area and Age

Years	2005						2010						2011					
	In-migrants (%)			Out-migrants (%)			In-migrants (%)			Out-migrants (%)			In-migrants (%)			Out-migrants (%)		
	total	in urban area	in rural area	total	from urban area	from rural area	total	in urban area	in rural area	total	from urban area	from rural area	total	in urban area	in rural area	total	from urban area	from rural area
under 19	24.27	21.27	27.30	24.27	20.00	30.10	27.57	23.55	31.85	27.57	22.34	35.27	27.76	23.71	31.90	27.76	22.81	35.14
20- 39	50.50	56.80	44.14	50.50	48.07	53.81	49.77	56.47	42.65	49.77	50.39	48.86	49.09	55.62	42.43	49.09	49.27	48.83
40-59	19.20	15.80	22.63	19.20	24.57	11.87	16.98	14.83	19.27	16.98	20.77	11.40	17.33	15.35	19.35	17.33	21.06	11.76
60 and over	6.03	6.13	5.93	6.03	7.36	4.22	5.68	5.16	6.23	5.68	6.50	4.46	5.82	5.32	6.32	5.82	6.86	4.27

Source: calculations based on INSSE data

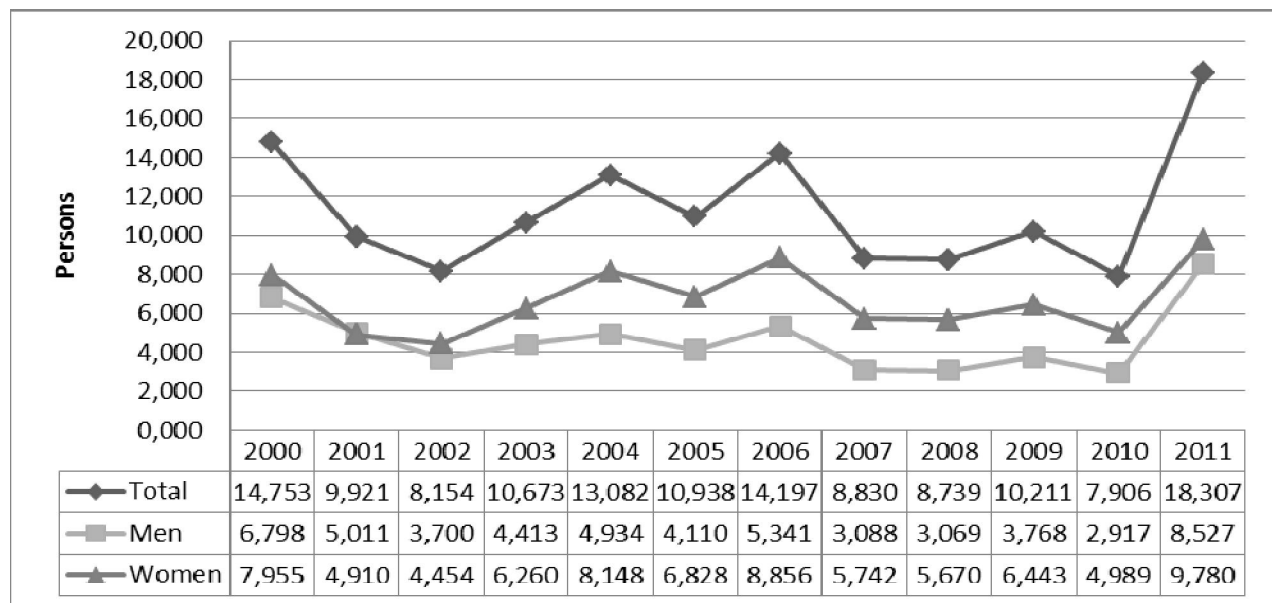
All these analysis refer to the internal population migration and not to the labour force. The lack of these last statistical data makes impossible the analysis of the labour force migration. For sure, the internal migration of the labour force is under the level registered in the case of internal population migration since the latter includes not only the employed persons, but as well children, retiree, students who study in other localities, persons who migrate as a result of marriage or divorce or for other reason other than looking for a job (Bunea, 2012: 102).

2.2. Permanent International Migration

The international migration of the population in general, and especially of the labour force, implies two components by the nature of input-output flows: emigration and immigration. Both are equally important for every country partly due to the implications they have on economic and social level.

Officially, the Romanian National Institution of Statistics records only the emigrants who have definitely settled their residence abroad, or, in other words, only the permanent emigrants.

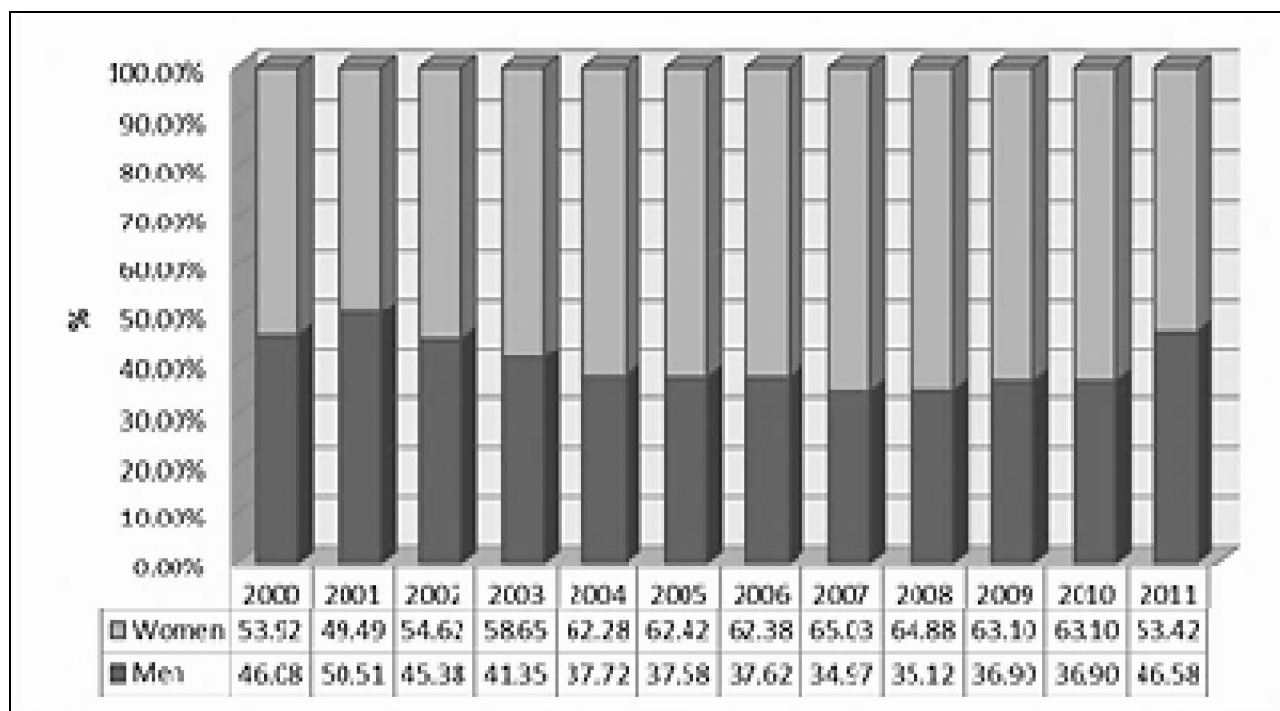
In the period between 2000 and 2011, the total number of emigrants distributed by gender is the following:

Figure 5: The Number of Romanian Emigrants

Source: the graphs was made by the author from statistical data available on: www.insse.ro

As it can be noticed on the chart above, the number of Romanians who changed their residence abroad was oscillatory during the entire period, with increase and decrease. The maximum was achieved in 2011 both in terms of overall and female and male, while the minimum was registered in 2010 for the overall emigrants, and for male emigrants. In the case of women, the minimum value is achieved in 2002.

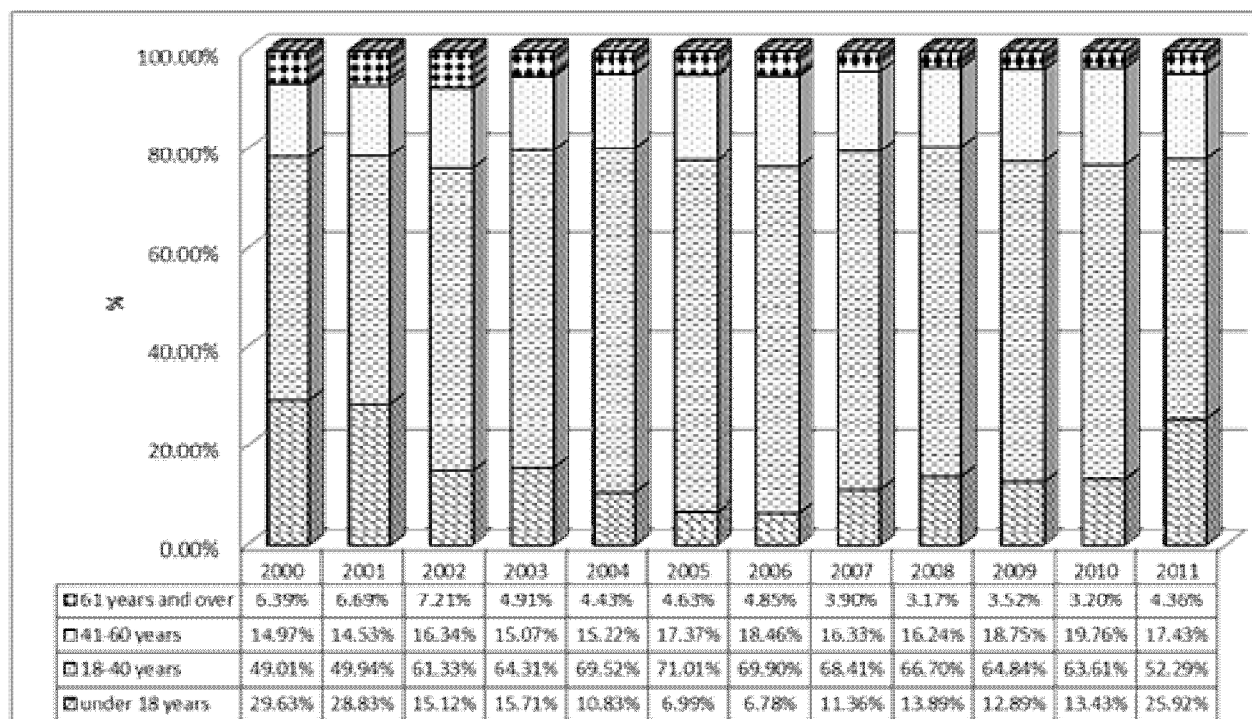
From the point of view of structure by gender, the situation of the Romanian emigrants was the following:

Figure 6: Gender Structure of Romanians who Emigrated

Source: the graphs was made by the author from statistical data available on: www.insse.ro

The chart above highlights in general, a ratio over 50% of the women who emigrated permanently abroad. However, 2001 is an exception.

If we follow the distribution by age groups of the Romanian emigrants, then the situation is the following:

Figure 7: Structure by Age Groups of the Romanian Emigrants

Source: the graphs was made by the author from statistical data available on: www.insse.ro

The most Romanian emigrants are included in the age group of 18-40 years, the group considered to be the most productive on the labour market. However, at the level of the entire period we note the alternation of the age group up to 18 years (the children of those who left definitively) and of the group between 41-60 years, occupying the second place. As it was expected, the fewest Romanian emigrants belong to the age group: 61 years and over, that is the least liable to "venture" in a foreign country.

In order to analyse the situation of the emigrants at the level of the 8 development regions we included table no. 3 which makes reference inclusively to the number of emigrants and to the balance of the international migration. Concerning the hierarchy of regions by sector emigrants, in 2005 the first placed was occupied by the Central Region with a total number of 2,164 emigrants, followed by North-East Region, Bucureşti-Ilfov Region, North-West Region. The smallest number of emigrants is found in the South-Muntenia Region, with only 453 persons. For 2010 the situation of the places occupied by regions concerning the total number of emigrants is changing. Thus, in the first place, with a number of 1,456 emigrants we find the Bucureşti-Ilfov Region. This is followed by North-East Region with 1,302 emigrants and by the Central Region with 1,163 emigrants. In the last place we find South-West Oltenia. At the level of 2011, the first place is still occupied by Bucureşti-Ilfov Region with 6,106 emigrants, while the second and third place is taken by the North-East Region with 2,972 emigrants and the West Region with 2,134 emigrants. The South-West Oltenia Region maintains the first position.

In terms of the total number of immigrants, we find a permanent increase during the entire period analysed. Taking a look at the data below, we note the fact that in 2011, the total number of immigrants from Romania is approximately five times higher than the one registered in 2005. At regional level, the first and second place is occupied every year by the same regions. Thus, the Bucureşti-Ilfov Region has absorbed to the labour market the greatest number of immigrants, while the South-East Oltenia Region manages to absorb every year the smallest number of immigrants. The fact that the Bucureşti-Ilfov Region attracts a higher number of immigrants is explained by the region's high financial power and by the greater number of possibilities to find a job. The second place is occupied steadily by the North-East Region.

In these three years, the overall balance of the international migration is negative. In contrast to other years, 2010 reflects, however, the smallest negative balance. By regions, we notice, however, positive balances of the international migration too. The highest positive balances were registered at the level of Bucureşti-Ilfov Region (2005, 2010) and North-East (2011). The most important negative balance appears in the case of Central (2005, 2011) and Western (2010) Regions.

Tabel 3: Evolution of Migrants from Romania in the Period 2005-2011

Regions	Emigrants			Immigrants			International migration balance		
	2005	2010	2011	2005	2010	2011	2005	2010	2011
North-East	1,852	1,302	2,972	339	1,115	4,134	-1,513	-187	1,342
North-West	1,595	992	1,757	278	631	786	-1,317	-361	-971
Center	2,164	1,163	1,921	241	679	712	-1,923	-484	-1,209
South-Muntenia	453	602	1,107	143	341	499	-310	-261	-608
Bucuresti-Ilfov	1,808	1,456	6,106	2,065	2,819	6,984	257	1,363	878
South-East	1,160	830	1,551	233	638	1,240	-927	-192	-311
South-West Oltenia	488	449	759	113	250	300	-375	-199	-459
West	1,418	1,112	2,134	292	586	703	-1,126	-526	-1,431
Total	10,938	7,906	18,307	3,704	7,059	15,358	-7,234	-847	-2,769

Source: www.insse.ro

According to the data above, the vision on the labour market in Romania (which has lost labour force) should be rather optimistic than pessimistic. Reality, however, is not like that. The period prior to the current economic and financial crisis was characterized by a deficit of labour force in a series of sectors of activity, fact that caused the "import" of the labour force. After 2008 the situation has been changed both in Romania and in the host countries. The phenomenon of foreign labour force absorption is replaced with the so-called phenomenon of "rejection".

In terms of ethnic groups, the majority of the emigrants were Romanians, followed at great distance by Hungarians, Germans and Jews. The second place was not constantly occupied by a certain ethnic group, but was always disputed between other ethnic groups.

The main destinations of the emigrants were in general: Canada, USA, Germany, Italy, Hungary and Spain (in the last years).

2.3. International Migration by the Census of Population and Housing of 2011

By the Census of Population and Housing of 2011 both the population temporarily absent from the country (less than 12 months) and the population who left the country for a longer term (over 12 months) were registered.

Out of the overall population of Romania of over 20 million people registered in the census, 385,729 persons, that is approximately 1.92%, represent the population gone temporality abroad (less than 12 months). According to the calculations made based on the statistical data, we noticed that the greatest proportion of this segment of population, that is, 44.01% went to Italy. Other favourite destinations preferred by the Romanians at that date were: Spain (18.43%), Germany (7.54%), France (5.63%), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (4.94%), Hungary (3.66%), Greece (2.46%), Belgium (2.14%) and Austria (2.01%). Other host countries have been added to these such as: Portugal, USA, Cyprus, Ireland, Holland, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Canada, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway, etc. The ratio of those who went to these countries was however insignificant.

The distribution by age groups of those gone temporarily shows the preponderance of young age groups. Thus, in the case of those gone to Italy, the highest proportion holds the group aged between 20-24 years (14.74%), followed at a short distance by the age group of 25-29 years (14.12%). In the case of Spain, the majority of Romanians who emigrated temporarily belong to the age group of 25-29 years (16% of the total), being followed by those from the age group of 30-34 years (15.38%). In the case of Germany, France, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Belgium and Austria, the situation of the first two places (with different ratio between the countries) was the same as in the case of Italy (age groups of 20-24 year and 25-29 years). Among those gone to Hungary, the majority belong to the group of 30-34 years (16%), being followed by those from the age group of 25-29 years (15.66%). It is worthy of note that in general, for all the host countries recorded in the official data the smallest number of those gone temporarily belong to the age group of 60-64 years, 65 years and over. Two states, however, make an exception in this sense: Canada and USA, for which the ratio of the last two age groups mentioned above is extremely high in comparison to the corresponding ratio of the other host countries, in Canada, the ratio of the aged between 60-64 years is of 13.32%, and the proportion of the aged 65 years and over is of 25.07%. For the USA the values are the following: 14.09% for those aged 65 years and over 65 years and of 10.80% for the aged between 60-64 years.

The distribution by gender of those gone temporarily from the country highlights a higher ratio of the Romanian men, of 53.28%. 39.81% of them went to Italy and 17.83% to Spain, thus summing up approximately 57%, while 48.8% of the total number of women gone temporarily had destinations such as Italy, and 19.12% Spain, the total being of 67.92%. The distribution by gender and age groups reveals an interesting situation. For instance, in the case of Italy, for men, the highest ratio belongs to the age group of 25-29 years, while in the case of women, the highest ratio belongs to the age group of 40-44 years. For Spain the first place in the case of men occupies the age group of 30-34 years, and in the case of women, the age group of 25-29 years.

In general, the majority of the population emigrated temporarily belongs to the young population. Only Canada and the USA are exceptions. The ratio of women aged between 60-64 years, 65 years and over 65 years is of 17.88% and of 27.80% in the case of Canada, of 14.92% and 17.67% in the case of the USA. The ratio of men gone temporarily to Canada and the USA with old age, mentioned above, is of: 6.70% and 21.11% (Canada), and of 6.41% and 10.27% (USA).

Depending on the averages of residence, the majority of those gone temporarily come from rural area that is over 65%. Further on, if we take into consideration their distribution by age groups, we notice the fact that in the case of those coming from the rural area, ratios over 50% were registered for those aged up to 54 years including, while, for the aged over 55 years, their ratios are under 50%. For those who come from the rural area, the situation is reverse. Ratios over 50% are registered for the aged 55 years and over. In other words, the majority of the old come from the urban area, while the majority of the young population (absent temporarily from the country) comes from the rural area. The explanation consists in the fact the old population from the rural area is more strongly bound to their home in comparison to the young population.

According to the same census, the population gone for a period over 12 months had a ratio of 3.62% of the overall population of Romania, approximately 727.5 thousand. The figure includes only a part of the number of external emigrants. According to the National Institution of Statistics, the significant sub-registration was determined by the fact that at the census the majority of these persons were gone abroad with the whole family, there were no other persons to provide the necessary information.

Just as in the case of the population absent temporarily, the main destinations of the population gone for a longer period were Italy and Spain. According to the calculations made based on the statistical data of the census, 46.91% of the total of the absent opted for Italy and 23.53% chose Spain as host country. Third and fourth place were taken at a long distance (only 5.55% of the total population absent for a period longer than a year) by Great Britain (including Northern Ireland) and Germany – 4.55%.

The distribution by age groups reveals a situation close to the one met in the case of the population absent temporarily. The population from young age groups dominates, which is considered to be the most active on the labour market. Furthermore, it must be mentioned that the USA and Canada have not registered any more values so high in the case of old age groups as in the case of the population temporarily absent. The registered figures for USA were: 3.76% for those aged 60-64 years and 5.37% for the aged 65 years and over 65 years, while for Canada: 3.99% and 6.12%.

50.14% of the overall of those declared gone for a longer period of time were men and 49.86% were women.

The distribution by gender and age groups reflects high ratios (over 50%) in the case of men absent for a period longer than one year, for the young age groups between 25-39 years as well as under 15 years. For all the other groups, women register higher values of 50% of the total of the absent.

54.02% of the total of the absent for a longer period come from the urban area and 45.98% from rural area. The distribution by residence averages and age groups reveals the fact that over 50% of the aged 25 years and over 25 years come from urban area, while over 50% aged under 25 years come from rural area. Further on, in the rural area the majority declared to be gone are men (52.49%), while in the urban area the majority declared are women (51.86%).

3. Temporary International Migration between Official And Unofficial

We frequently hear questions like: how many Romanians have emigrated abroad? This is a question which cannot be given an exact answer. Why cannot we know it for sure? Because the phenomenon of temporary migration is extremely difficult to monitor. The one that our country deals with is under estimated as a result of lack of a data source which offer a real could imagine of the total number of persons who leave the country for a period of at least of 1 year, with or without the change of residence.

If we take into consideration the statistical data registered at the Census of Population and Housing of 2011, the result is a total of 1,113,269 Romanians emigrated temporarily abroad, whether for shorter periods or longer periods of time. This would mean approximately 5.53 % of the total current population of Romania.

The numbers published, however, in the Romanian mass-media are greater than the official statistics. It is understood that their real number of these exceeds much more than the situation presented above. Therefore, we can only estimate the number of those gone abroad temporarily to work, to study, to reunite family, etc. For that we must rely mainly on the official statistical data of some of the host countries.

Thus, in Italy, country of destination where the majority of the emigrated Romanians can be found, on January 1st 2011, according to the data of the National Institution of Statistics of this country lived 968,576 Romanian citizens (<http://www.stranieriinitalia.it/images/istat22set2011.pdf>). Out of these only 614,293 had labour agreements concluded in Italy (http://www.economica.net/cati-romani-muncesc-in-strainatate-si-unde-sunt-cei-mai-multi_67822.html).

In Spain, the second country on the preference list of the emigrated Romanians, the number of the Romanian residents was, according to the census of population carried out in 2011 in this country, 798,104 (http://www.ine.es/en/prensa/np756_en.pdf). For 2012, the press in Romania declared a number of 913,405, that is, 100,000 more than in the previous year (http://www.economica.net/cati-romani-muncesc-in-strainatate-si-unde-sunt-cei-mai-multi_67822.html).

For the end of 2011, the statistical data published in Germany highlighted a number of 159,222 citizens of Romanian nationality who lived there

(https://www.destatis.de/DE/Publikationen/Thematisch/Bevoelkerung/MigrationIntegration/AuslaendBevoelkerung2010200117004.pdf?__blob=publicationFile).

In Great Britain, in 2012, there were 117,000 Romanian citizens living there, which means 2.4% of the total immigrants of that country. Out of them only 66,000 were working

(<http://www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/research/transnational-spaces/migration-research-unit/pdfs/sopemi-report-2012>).

Unfortunately, not all the host countries of the Romanian migrants offer to the public accurate figures related to them, but only estimated numbers. A possible explanation would be the relatively reduced number of the Romanian emigrants in these countries in comparison to the great number in countries such as Italy and Spain, which requires a better record. In Spain, for instance, Romanians form the most numerous community of immigrants.

According to the data published in the Romanian press in the article "*How many Romanians work abroad and where are the most*", Romanians have emigrated in other countries besides those already mentioned, and their number was:

- approximately 200,000 persons in France;
- about 110,000 Romanians who work legally in Great Britain. In the case of this country we note a discrepancy of the data published in the two countries (of destination and of origin). The official statistics of Great Britain state only a number of 66,000 Romanians who work legally, whereas the Romanian press reveals a greater number;
- approx. 28,000 Romanians work legally in Ireland;
- over 22,000 Romanians work legally in Austria;
- approx. 15,000 Romanians live in Holland;
- less than 2,000 Romanians live in Finland.

Confining only to these numbers, the result would be a total of over 2,250,000 Romanians who emigrated abroad.

However, there are sources giving much higher figures than the above mentioned. For instance in 2009 certain estimates were made concerning the number of Romanian emigrants. It is stated that at that time their number was between 2,800,000-3,000,000 Romanians. The estimates were based on a series of opinion polls carried out not only in Romania, but also in the host country, as well as on official data of the institutions or organizations from the main countries of destination for migration (<http://jurnalul.ro/special-jurnalul/3-milioane-de-romani-la-munca-in-strainatate-528860.html>).

According to the Report on Immigration carried out by the Organization for Cooperation and Economical Development, in 2010, in the EU member states there are approximately 2.5 – 2.7 million of Romanian immigrants (<http://www.agerpres.ro/media/index.php/economic/item/19164-OCDE-27-milioane-de-emigranti-romani-in-UE.html>).

A number close to the above was the one published in an article according to which in 2010 there were 2.77 million Romanians who emigrated (<http://www.ziare.com/social/romani/banca-mondiala-2-77-milioane-de-romani-au-emigrat-1056538>). The number was based on a report of the World Bank, institution which ranked Romania at 18 on a global level, immediately behind the West Bank and the Gaza Strip concerning the total number of emigrants, and at the ninth place regarding the emigration of qualified labour force - almost 12% of the number of highly qualified persons who leave (<http://www.zf.ro/eveniment/romania-depaseste-indonezia-la-emigranti-8282811>).

To all these figures we should always add, however, those which rate as well the phenomenon of illegal migration, figures which are impossible to know as well in reality.

If we compare the two data categories, the official and the unofficial, and the figures published abroad and in the country, we find that most of the time these contradict themselves. It is certain that the exact number of all the Romanians who emigrated temporarily from the country for several reasons are not known even today. The phenomenon of migration is so dynamic and complex that we cannot know for sure the number of migrating population. The external migration is extremely hard to be controlled both in terms of emigration and immigration, and this is because migration is not always legal.

4. Conclusions

As it has been expected, a clarification of the real situation of the Romanian migration is an extremely difficult task for the authorities of the state, even more difficult for the specialists. The lack of statistical data does not allow drawing some relevant conclusions. However, we can state the following:

- migration is extremely dynamic and complex;
- the young population is the one that in general call the „tune” of the phenomenon of migration in Romania;
- the phenomenon of permanent migration is sufficiently controlled by the authorities;
- the phenomenon of internal migration is also better controlled and known due to the existence of the statistical record;
- at the level of Romania, the internal migration is marked by higher rates for the urban-rural type of migration;
- the phenomenon of temporary migration is by far one of the least quantifiable and known.

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