

## CONSUMER PROFILE OF KNOWLEDGE IN RURAL- EDUCATION AND AGE

Andra Valentina Tudorica<sup>1</sup>, Livia Mirescu<sup>2</sup>

### *Abstract*

Education and therefore learning is the main pillars that form the new generation of society, the student is the focus of the work carried on and the performance gained during years of study.

Problems currently affecting the whole rural educational system by very low possibilities to advance professionally, being found among the determining factors: standard of living low and insufficient funds allocated for education.

In terms of age, the evolution of Romanian rural area is marked by a real decline, manifested in the aging population, low birth and fertility, external migration and depopulation of certain areas strong.

**Keywords :** Knowledge consumer, information, rural, demographic decline

Intellectual dimension of personality appears to be related to the quantity and quality of knowledge and experience action that a person has accumulated, and its possibilities to operate mentally with such content, to respond satisfactorily to the requirements that are addressed the natural and social environment in which they live. (I. Nicola, 1996). Profile of consumer knowledge in rural areas can be shaped primarily by environmental-impact-factor school education very important.

In rural areas there are problems of access to education, including the most important are: poor conditions for learning, high costs of education, poverty. High schools, schools of arts and crafts works mostly in urban or more common, hence other obstacles in access to education for children (additional costs for accommodation or transport). For this reason many students from rural areas to stop only eight grades.

In about 90% of the communes, the teaching is done mostly by secondary school level. Secondary institutions or post secondary level is very low in number. Thus, only 173 reach common educational process from pre-school to high school or post

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1 Andra Valentina Tudorica, PhD. Student, Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies, Str. Piata Romană nr. 6, Bucuresti, Romania

2 Livia Mirescu, PhD. Student, Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies, Str. Piata Romană nr. 6, Bucuresti, Romania

secondary level. Financial resources are insufficient and therefore are declining school performance and dropout is increased.<sup>3</sup>

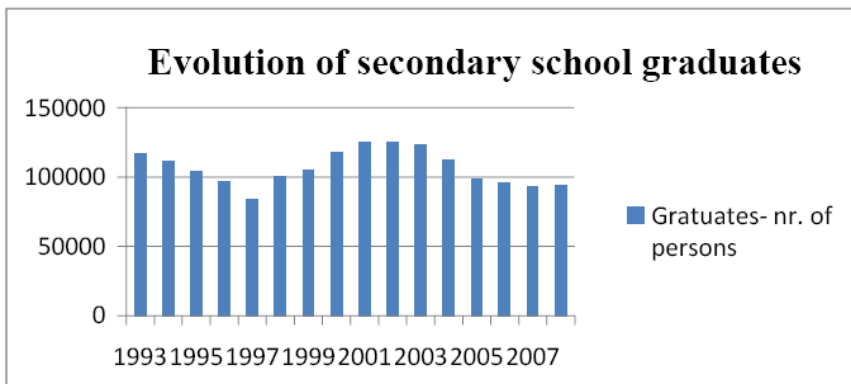
Graduates by level of education and area of residence (primary and secondary)<sup>4</sup>

From 1992-1993 to 1996-1997 school year significantly decreases the number of graduates, but in 1998 an increase of almost 20% of the critical period (1997) - from 84,146 in 1997 to 100,317 in 1998).

In rural areas, the number of pupils in rural primary and secondary school graduates is considerably lower compared to urban areas. Critical period of rural education was known between 1996-1997, when the number of graduates has fallen below 90,000. In the 1993-1994 school year 1992-1993 there was a comparable 4.25% decrease in the number of students from 116567-111627. A positive trend was recorded in 2000 (117.000 people).

In 2000-2003, compared with previous years, there is an increase of graduates, maintaining this value constant up to 2005 when it begins to decline significantly.

**Fig. 1 .Evolution of the number of high schools and vocational graduates**

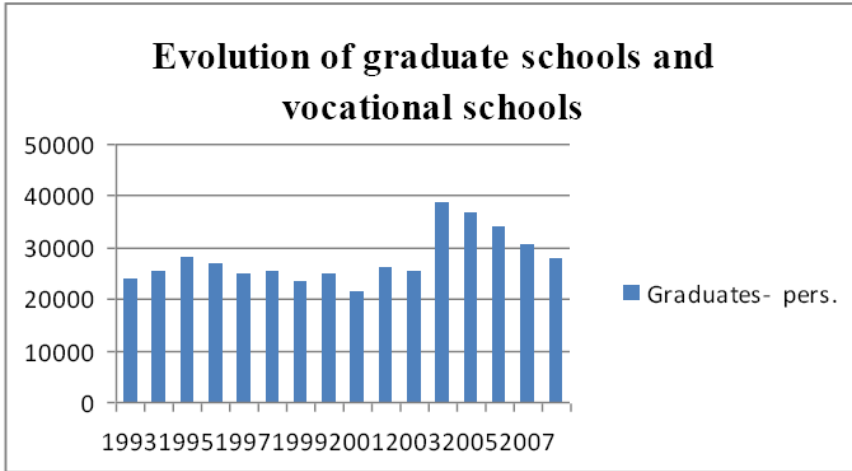


Source: after INS

3 Ministerul Educației și Cercetării, Statistici, <http://harta.bdne.edu.ro/harta/statistici.html?idNomenclator=0>

4 <http://www.insse.ro> accessed on 11.04.2011

Fig. 2



Source: after INS

In the third stage of education, that colleges and vocational schools, the number is between 21,000 and 40,000 graduates, known as the critical period of 2001 and the most favorable in 2004-2007.

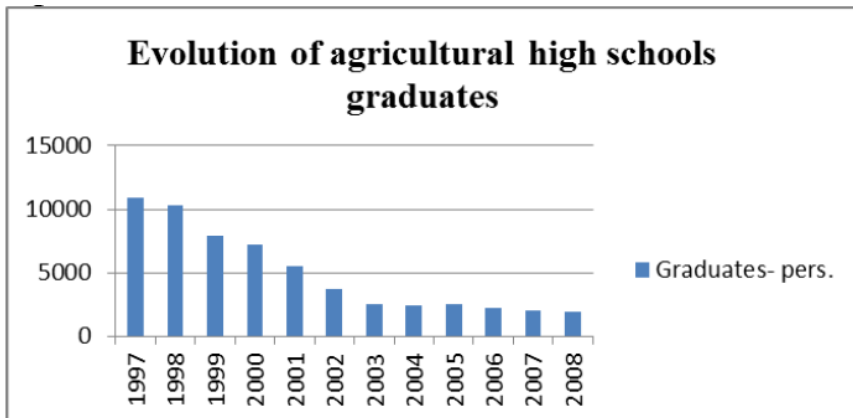
Graduates by level of education and area of residence, agricultural high schools<sup>5</sup>

Agricultural high schools play an important role in education, but the share of their total is less significant.

As shown in the graph, the number of graduates of agricultural colleges continues to decline, registering values even 1800 people for 2008.

Evolution of agricultural high schools graduates

Fig. 3

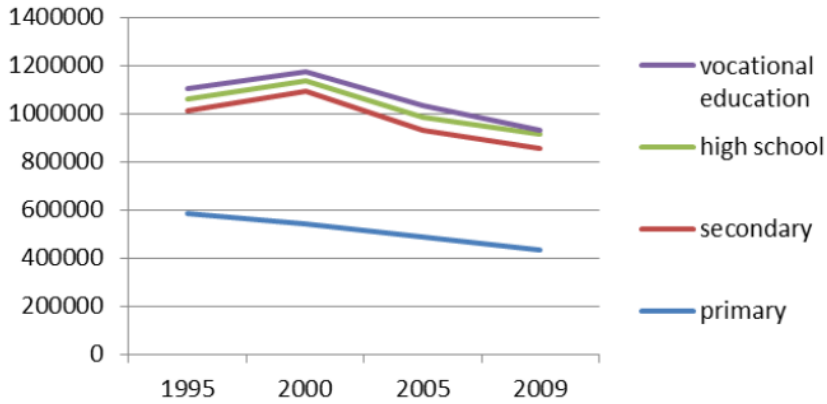


Source: after INS

<sup>5</sup> www.insse.ro accessed on 11.04.2011

Current state of education in rural areas can be defined as: lack of financing sources, failure to adapt educational programs to the labor market, dropout and illiteracy default.

**The dynamics of the number of students in rural areas during 1995-2009**



Source: INS-Tempo

Measures that could be taken to improve education in rural areas include:

1. Training areas and facilities available to enable the development of general authorities, general training in specific field, without being able to offer an effective simulation training specialist associated.
2. Training school network reorganization aimed at ensuring quality in training students.
3. Attracting qualified teachers in schools in rural areas by creating incentives to motivate them.
4. Increasing the share of schools in rural areas to provide level 3 qualification from 7.69% in 2005 to at least 20% in 2013 to create equal opportunities of young people in rural areas, and ensuring adequate workforce needs of local needs.

Vocational and technical education must find effective solutions to attract the school population in rural areas to follow a training course. Although the analysis of labor market results in a decrease in pressure in the labor market, long-term, self-employed population in rural areas will generate increased pressure on the labor market.

Educational pyramid

The national system of university education is structured in four levels: <sup>6</sup>

- Pre- School, including: junior, middle group, large group, preparatory school;
- Primary- including primary-grades 1-4;
- Second, including: lower secondary education, organized into two cycles succeed: gymnasium, classes V-VIII and junior high school or arts and crafts classes IX-X, upper secondary education: upper secondary school classes XI - XII / XIII, preceded, where appropriate, the year of completion;
- Post secondary

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.edu.ro/index.php/articles/c21>

“Using the information relates to the specific purpose that addresses a topic of knowledge. The goal behind the effort to understand the facts will determine the manner of their research: for example, some are concerned, first, the usefulness of that information for their daily life, others to gather information which would enable them to deepen their understanding of theoretical concepts, principles and processes, as some people may be concerned mainly with the functional aspect of things and want to “try”.<sup>7</sup>

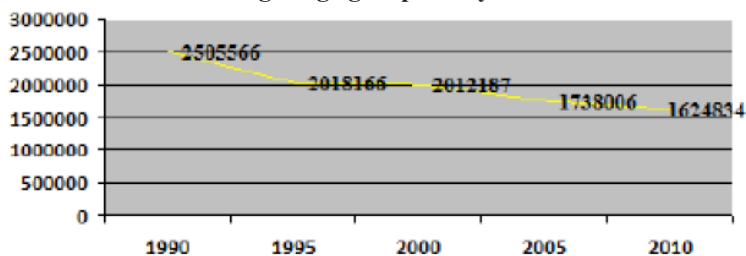
### AGE

Romania is the state with the highest percentage of rural population in the EU (45%), being located at a significant distance from other Member States such as Poland (38%), Hungary (34%), Austria (34%), France and Spain (24%)<sup>8</sup>. Although more than a third of registered farmers in the EU are living in Romania, agricultural production achieved is only a tenth of that recorded for the Community<sup>9</sup>, which can be explained by the fact that the Romanian rural subsistence agriculture predominates, being practiced to ensure population self-consumption.

Romanian rural areas are facing issues related to aging, negative birth rate, the depopulation of certain areas and migration to urban areas or foreign, all bringing a significant change in rural population structure.

In the period after 1989, the Romanian village has declined in terms of 0-14 years age group the share of total rural population, among the main factors are found: lower living standards, unemployment, uncertainty, and decreasing natural growth. Rural areas has become increasingly attractive for people over 35 who is usually more vulnerable to changes in the labor market in urban areas and who are turning to rural areas where subsistence operates.

Fig.1 Age group 0-14 years

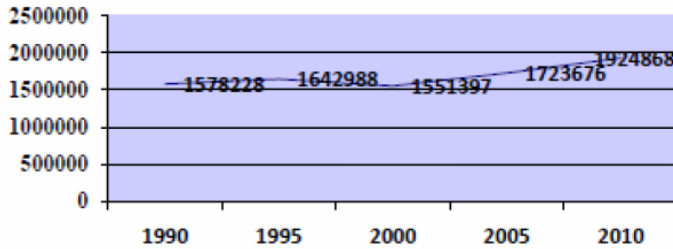


7 Jinga, Olga Ciobanu- Pedagogy, Economic Publishing, Bucharest, 2001

8 NationMaster

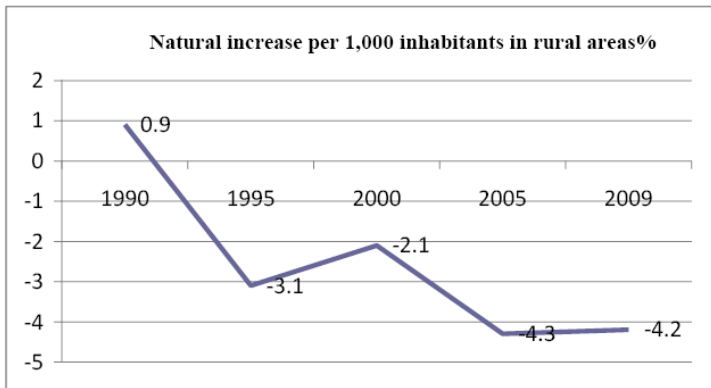
9 World Bank

Fig.2 Age group 35-49 years



Although birth rates in recent years recorded some stability, the continuous degradation of fact, the imbalances that affect the age structure of population, a situation amplified by unexpectedly large size of external migration.

Declining birth rates is a problem facing Europe. To consider a stable population, that simple replacement of generations, thus counteracting mortality, we need a total fertility rate of 2.1. Romania has a 1.38, which means it is below the stabilization of population during 2002-2011 was most relevant in this respect.



Source: INS-Tempo

Although the share of elderly persons increased by a few percent in the last twenty years, the current situation is not critical, there is still a significant sector of middle age. On the other hand, the population over 65 years in 1990 represented only 13% of the total rural population in recent years to deposit the value of 18.5%<sup>10</sup> and growth prospects are even more pronounced .

The most important issues facing rural areas are related to lack of water supply networks and the sewage has implications for comfort in living space, low population continues to increase elderly and young, low birth rate, migration of young people with training, the large share of workers in agriculture, given that agriculture isn't yet a competitive field. When the standard of living, quality of care and access to health services will meet marked improvement and lifestyle of the population will be oriented to a greater extent in good health, birth rate will know almost automatically, the desired evolution.

<sup>10</sup> INS Statistical Yearbook, 2009

## CONCLUSIONS

The role of education in the transfer of knowledge is based on the requirement to use advanced technology in almost all fields and thus the formation of specialists to cover labor, which is thus forced to become more competitive. Information becomes an essential requirement for any employee.

Regarding the educational level of rural population, there is a steadily falling trend due to reduced possibilities in primary physical access, poor learning conditions, poverty, unemployment and relatively high costs of education, even for the basic , plus the relatively low proportion of qualified teachers in rural areas.

On the other hand, age plays a role as important in knowledge transfer equation by the fact that rural needs people able to accumulate and use information to transform agriculture into a truly competitive.

After analyzing demographic and educational profile of consumer is emerging knowledge represented by a person of middle age, strongly rooted in rural areas with limited access to education system due to insufficient funds allocated to rural education, the share of low qualified teachers, and because of unemployment, lack of information and stimulation for continuing professional training.

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