Population development in Sweden since 1960

Abstract

This diploma thesis deals with the population development in Sweden between 1960 and 2018. The main goal of this work is to evaluate in the context of selected demographic characteristics the course of demographic changes that appeared in the country after 1960. The result is changes in the level of demographic reproduction, which are referred to as the second demographic transition. From the 1960s to the present, Sweden has seen an increase in the average age at first marriage, an increase in the average age of the mother giving birth and an increase in the number of divorces. During the observed period, the Swedish population aged, the share of the pre-productive component of the population decreased, while the share of the post-productive component in the population increased. The development of total fertility in Sweden is often compared to a roller coaster due to its specific fluctuation. From 1960 to 2018, Sweden saw a decline in mortality rates, especially in the older age groups and up to one year of age, which was reflected in the values of life expectancy at birth that grew for both men and women. Sweden is inspiring for other European countries with its gender-neutral family and social policy.

Keywords: population development, Sweden, second demographic transition, demographic aging, age structure, marriage rate, divorce rate, birth rate, abortion rate, mortality, migration, family policy, population projection