



Investing in Youth: Demographic dividend and Employment opportunity

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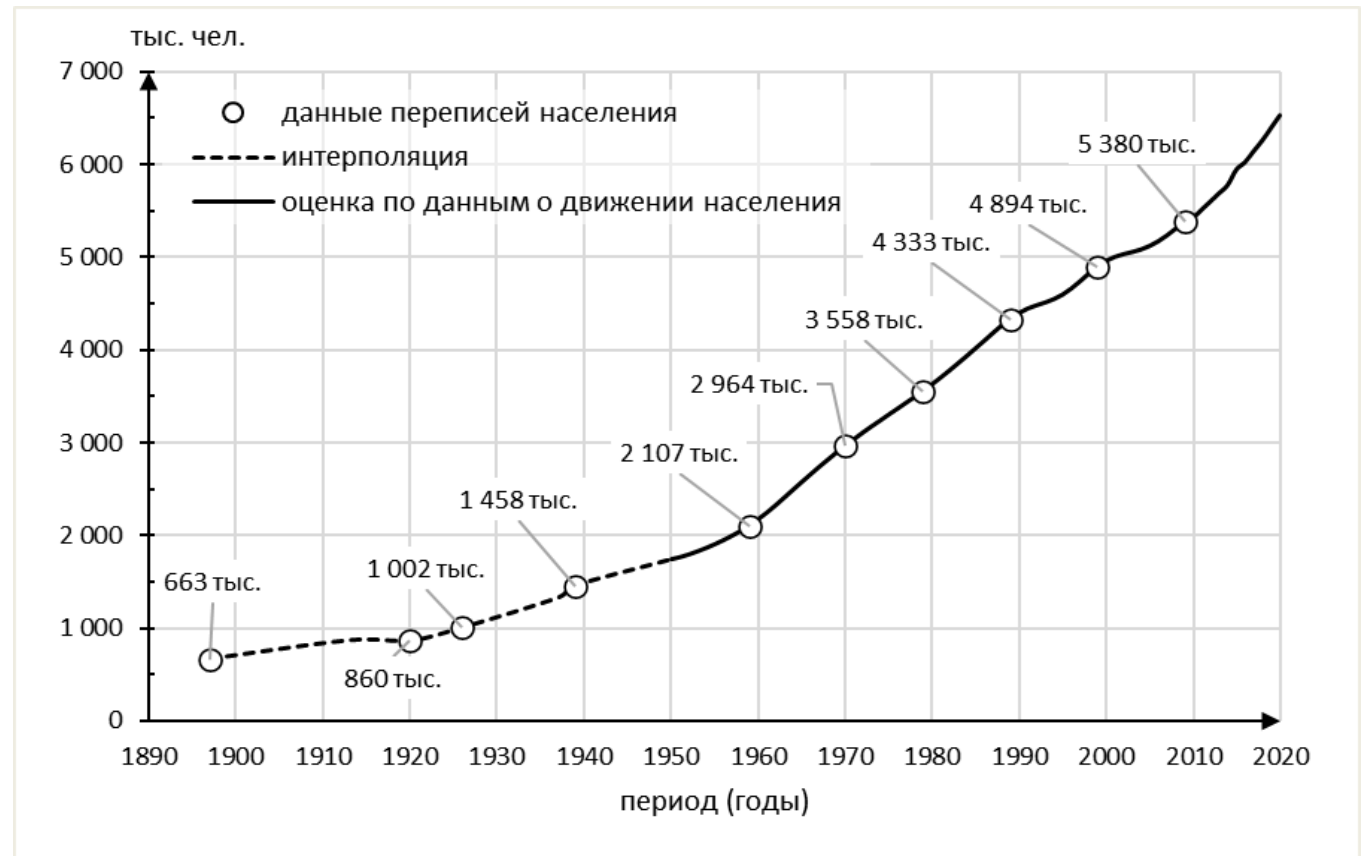


Official name: **Kyrgyz Republic**

Territory: **199 951 km²**

Independence: **31 August 1991**

Population: **7 million**

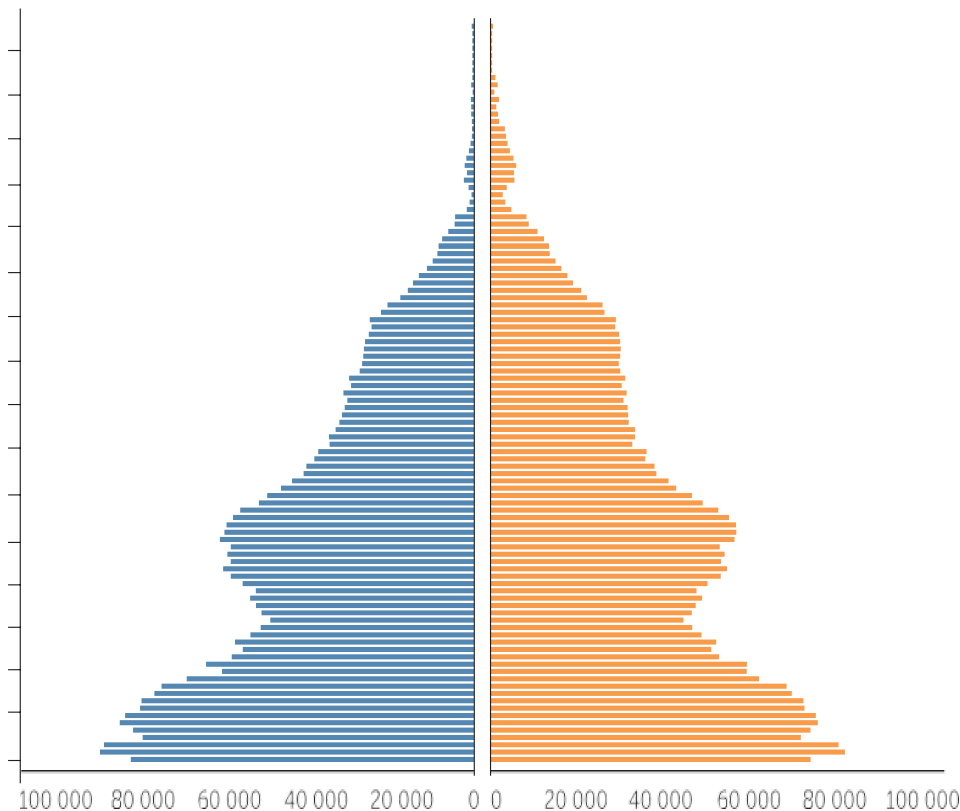


- The problem of rapid population growth remains the most important and acute one.
- From January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2020, the population of the Kyrgyz Republic has increased by almost 630 thousand people, or 11%.

PUBLIC DISCOURSE ON DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

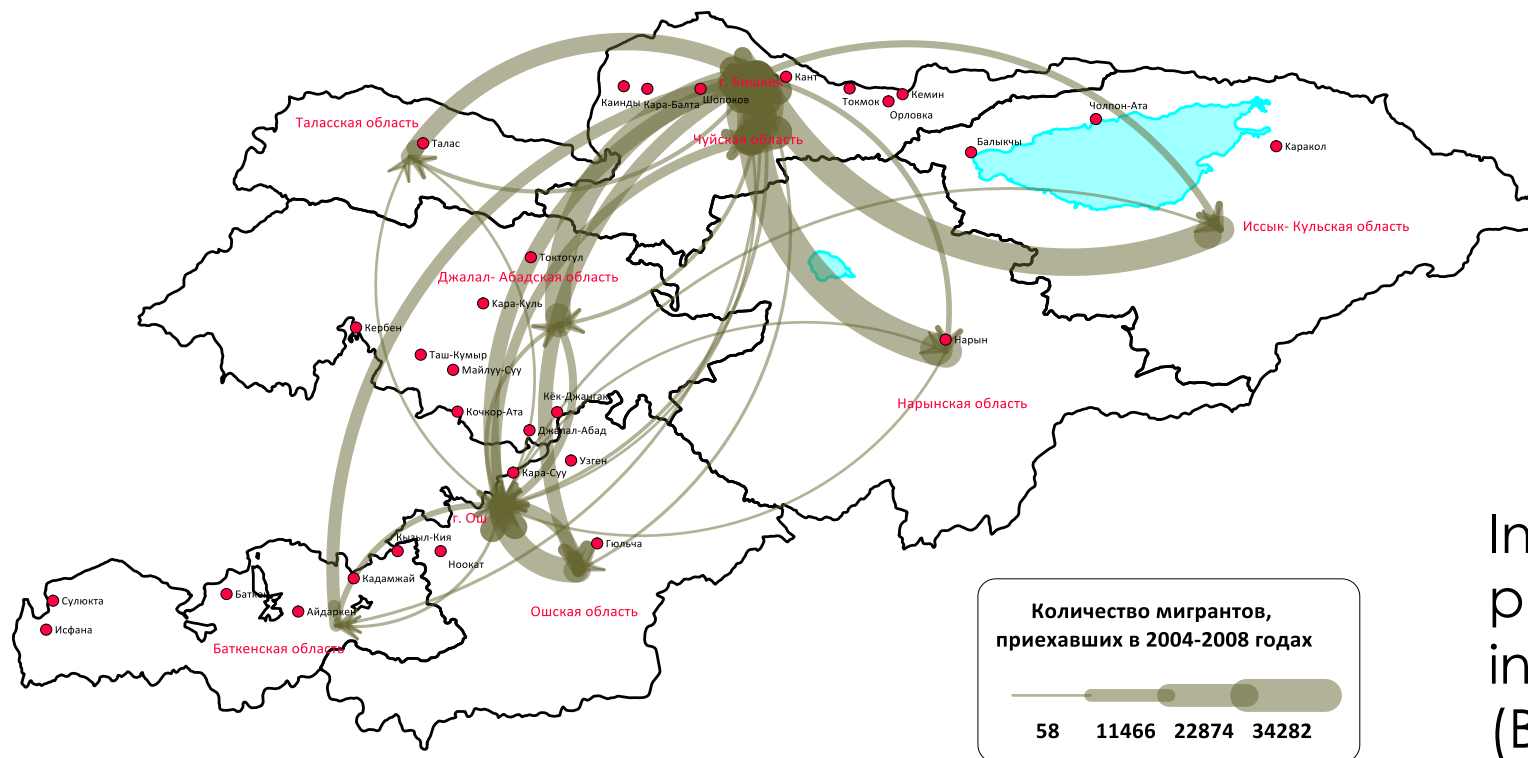
One-third of young people (30%) live in urban settlements and two-thirds (70%) in rural areas

Youth is a strategic/driving source



- multi-ethnic society
- high divorce: every third marriage in urban areas break up/in villages every 5th
- increase of gender based violence/underage marriage/adolescent birth rate/
- migration poses a significant challenge to the country's demography due to the especially high emigration rates of young people, people of reproductive age, and qualified professionals

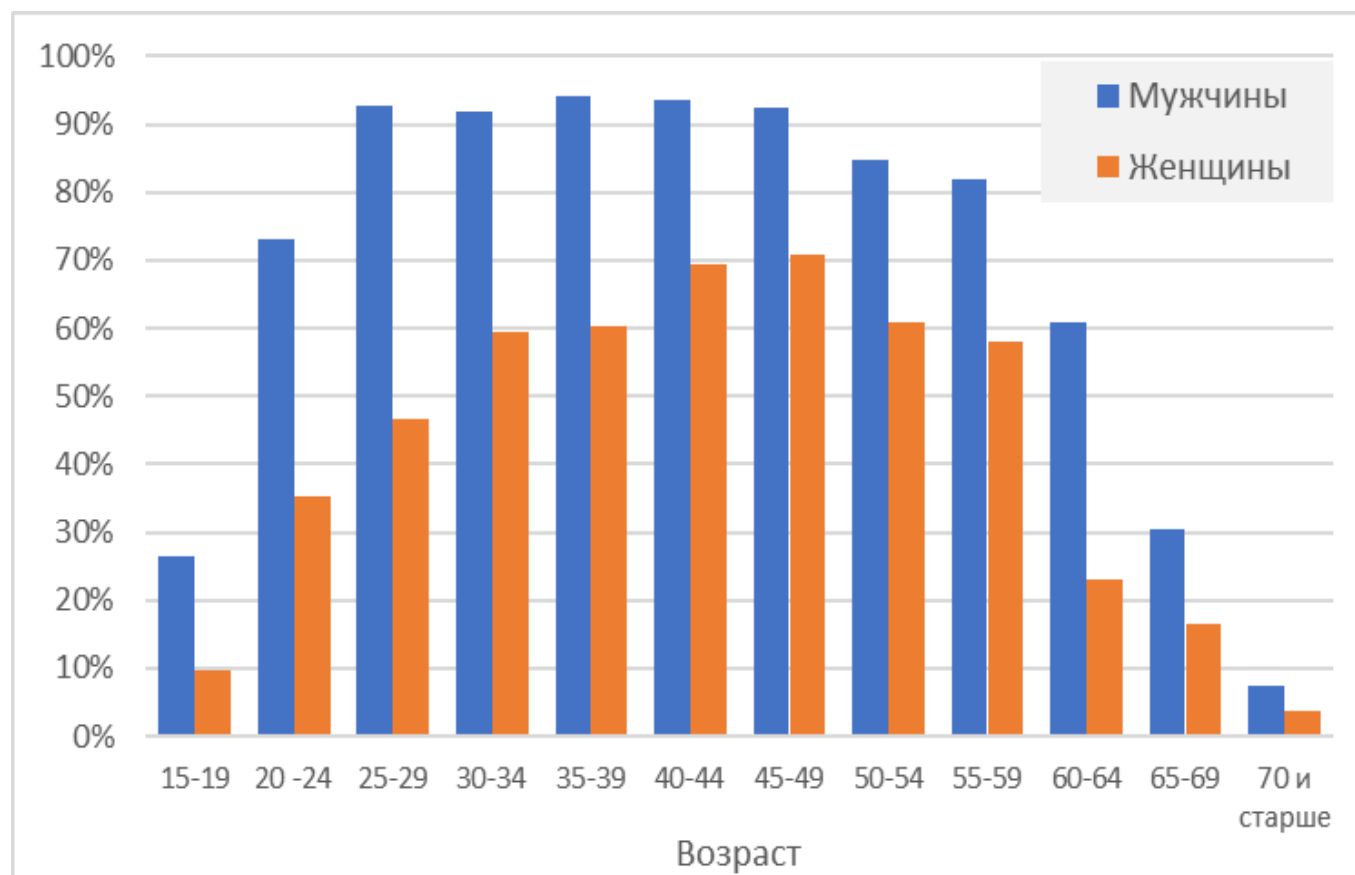
KEY ISSUES THAT KEEP POLICYMAKERS “AWAKE AT NIGHT”



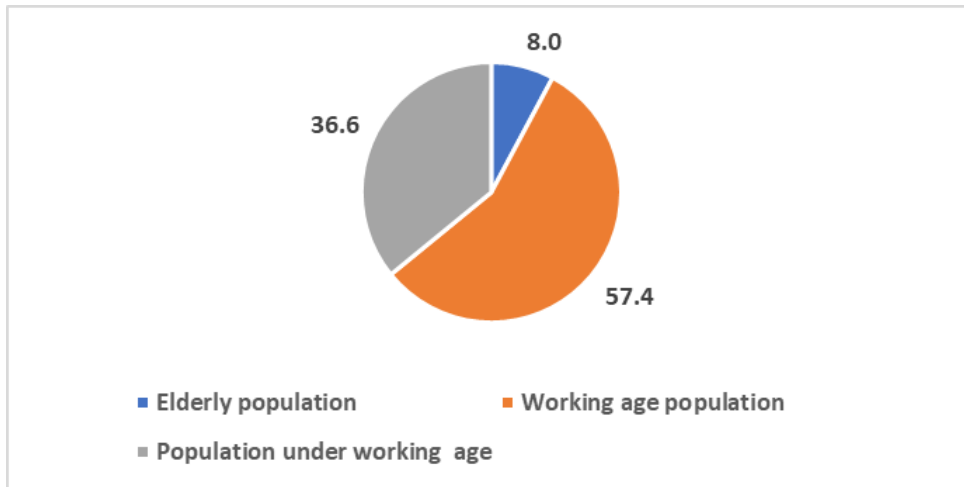
Increased population growth in two cities (Bishkek and Osh)

Key issues that keep policymakers “awake at night”

Proportion of employed population by gender and age in 2020
(each age and gender group = 100%)



CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS



According to the Population situation analysis the number of youth entering the labor market in the KR is estimated very high (more than 350,000 a year).

- Demographic shifts connected with youth and migration is affecting joint efforts to reduce poverty and inequality, ensure social protection and respond to a crisis based on the needs of the population
- Young adults need to fulfil their potential, for which policies are needed that cover strategic investment into education, health and family planning.
- The 'youth bulge' needs to gain skills that can be directed toward productive activity

Policy action

- The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic has developed a Youth Policy Concept for 2020-2030, which is a strategic document designed to respond to the challenges in the development of youth that Kyrgyz Republic is facing.

The purpose of the Concept is to create an effective system of youth development, creating conditions for the implementation of state youth policy, the formation of an active citizenship and values of young people, providing a stable innovative development of the country, promoting the social development and self-development of young people



Policy actions



- Building demography resilient cities
 - Mainstreaming demography informed policies
 - Strengthening the Educational component of demography and population studies
 - Youth empowerment and supporting the youth platforms (including youth entrepreneurship and youth initiatives)
 - Ensuring safe space for young girls
 - Healthy transition of young people
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