

ASPECTS ON THE ACTUAL LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AT THE SOUTH-WEST REGION OLTENIA

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Abstract

Due to the complexity of the educational sector, the work is topical, even though over time there have been many concerns regarding its education and development and the correlation between the level of educational development and the level of economic development. The aim of the paper is to analyze the educational development at the level of the South-West Oltenia region over the period 2010-2015, thus using the statistical series for the mentioned timeframe we analyzed the evolution of the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region And the evolution of the school population in the South-West Oltenia region. Thus, the objective of the paper is enshrined in the overall objective of Romania, namely to reduce the economic and social development disparities between Romania and other EU Member States.

The results of the analysis carried out by the two indicators, the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region and the number of the school population at the level of the South-West Oltenia region indicate that the number of educational units in the period 2010-2015 decreased by 4.28% And the number of the school population by 14.67%.

Keywords: educational development, economic development, the south west Oltenia region

Classification JEL: I21, I25

1. Introduction

The economic development of each country is closely linked to the development of education. Romania, as a member state of the European Union, has made strong efforts to implement the Bologna and Lisbon standards, but despite all the efforts that have been made, there are still problems and a lack of correlation between education and the labor market. In order to analyze the changes of the educational system in the South-West Oltenia region, we used series of data provided by the National Institute of Statistics on Education.

The purpose of a study dedicated to analyzing the development of the education system from the perspective of the statistical indicators is to familiarize those interested in the education system, but also to the decision-makers with an indicator-based approach and, implicitly, to make informed decisions in education that allow observing the distance From the reality of the educational system to the established objectives, the observation of the problematic situations at the level of the educational system, the argumentation of the options on which the educational policies are based, the comparison of the differences in relation to certain reference values in the field of education at the level of the South-West Oltenia region.

For the period 2016-2020, Romania's education and training strategy, also called the VET strategy, involves a coherent approach to initial and continuing vocational training, thus creating the premises for developing an accessible, attractive, competitive vocational training system Relevant to market requirements.

The education strategy aims to respond to Romania's overall objective of reducing the economic and social development disparities between Romania and other EU Member States. This strategy is part of the National Sustainable Development Strategy of Romania 2013-2020-2030 regarding the achievement of the EU average level of education and training performance.

The results of the studies led to the idea that education influences changes in the attitudes of society members with direct effects on development. For example, McClelland has succeeded in

demonstrating that the historical periods of economic and social development have been accompanied by an increase in the need to accumulate, and the population can meet this need only through education.

Also, A. Inkeles suggested that the development of society is not possible without an adequate individual attitude, which, in fact, is the result of education. A. Inkeles believes that the main contribution of education to the development of society is based on the ability to transform individual aptitudes and values from traditional to modern. Along with A. Inkeles, there are other authors who have studied the link between education and economic development. For example, J.R. Goody and I. Watt [] have argued that the existence of a tradition of literacy is essential for a rational attitude in every society, which in turn contributes to economic development.

2. Educational development at the level of South-West Oltenia

In the paper, in order to present a current picture of the level of development of the educational system and infrastructure in the South-West Oltenia region, we analyzed its evolution during 2010-2015 and highlighted the positive and negative aspects it faces. The most important indicators that can be used for an adequate analysis of the education system are: the number of school units, the school population and the teaching staff.

At the level of South-West Oltenia, the total number of preschool, school, high school, post-secondary, vocational and higher education units was 737 in 2014/2015, representing 10.36% of the total number of units at national level.

Due to the restructuring of the educational units, the number of school units in the South-West Oltenia region declined in the period 2010-2015, so that at the end of this period the total number of school units was 737 with 33 less comparative With 2010.

Of the 737 existing units in the South-West Oltenia region, Dolj County holds 28.35%, which in absolute terms means 209 school units in 2015.

The analysis of statistical data shows that the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region registered a fluctuating trend during the period 2010-2015, the most significant reduction being between 2010-2011, from 770 units in 2010 to 744 units Education in 2011. In the period 2011-2013 the increase of the education units was achieved, reaching in 2013 to 761.

In higher education, at the level of South-West Oltenia, in the academic year 2014/2015 there were 3 higher education institutions, of which 2 in Dolj county and 1 in Gorj County. From the total of 28,204 students enrolled in higher education 76,89% were registered in Dolj County, 12,31% in Gorj County, 5,95% in Mehedinți, 1,85% in Olt and 2,98% in Valcea.

Table no. 1 Evolution of the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region during 2010-2015

Indicators \ Years	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
South-West Oltenia	770	744	751	761	746	737
Dolj	210	199	203	208	211	209
Gorj	110	110	116	116	120	120
Mehedinți	116	110	108	109	110	109
Olt	187	176	176	175	167	165
Vâlcea	147	149	148	153	138	134
România	7.588	7.204	7069	7.074	7.127	7.108

Source: insse.ro

Table no. 2 Evolution of the share of educational units in the component counties of the South-West Oltenia region during 2010-2015

Indicators \ Years	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Dolj/ South-West Oltenia	27,27	26,75	27,03	27,33	28,28	28,36
Gorj/ South-West Oltenia	14,29	14,29	15,06	15,06	15,58	15,58
Mehedinți/ South-West	15,06	14,29	14,03	14,16	14,29	14,16

Oltenia						
Olt/ South-West Oltenia	24,29	22,86	22,86	22,73	21,69	21,43
Vâlcea/ South-West Oltenia	19,09	19,35	19,22	19,87	17,92	17,40
South-West Oltenia / România	10,15	10,33	10,62	10,76	10,47	10,37

Source: insse.ro

From the data presented in Tables no. 1-2 we can see that the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region decreased over the analysis period from 770 in 2010 to 737 in 2015. This decrease was recorded at the level of the whole country with a much higher rate, which also led to an increase in the share of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region in the total number of educational units in Romania.

The distribution of the number of units of educational establishments in the South-West Oltenia region in the year 2015 is the following:

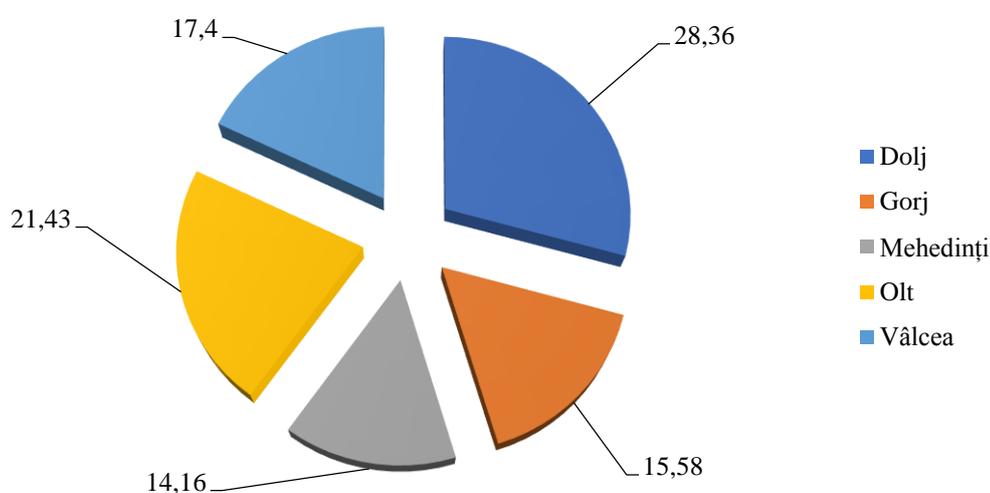


Chart no. 1 Distribute the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region in 2015

From chart no. 1 we can see that at the level of 2015, the largest share of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region is located in Dolj County (28.36%), followed by Olt (21.43%), Valcea (17.4), Gorj (15.58%) and Mehedinți (14.16%).

Analyzing the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region compared to the number of other educational units in Romania (Table 3) it can be seen that in 2015 the South-West Oltenia region held 12.68% of the total number of units Education in Romania.

Table no. 3 Evolution of the number of educational units in the South-West Oltenia region compared to the other regions of Romania

Indicators	Years	UM	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Northeast region	nr.		1.044	1.028	1.001	1.029	1.034	1.040
	%		13,76	14,27	14,16	14,55	14,51	14,63
Central region	nr.		1087	1022	984	930	931	933
	%		14,33	14,19	13,92	13,15	13,06	13,13
Northeast region	nr.		1.243	1.159	1.093	1.113	1.132	1.130
	%		16,38	16,09	15,46	15,73	15,88	15,90
Southeast region	nr.		967	936	909	902	912	901
	%		12,74	12,99	12,86	12,75	12,80	12,68

Southern Muntenia Region	nr.	1.151	1.056	1.023	1.034	1.040	1.042
	%	15,17	14,66	14,47	14,62	14,59	14,66
Bucharest-Ilfov region	nr.	644	623	639	672	708	698
	%	8,49	8,65	9,04	9,50	9,93	9,82
South-West Oltenia	nr.	770	744	751	761	746	737
	%	10,15	10,33	10,62	10,76	10,47	10,37
West region	nr.	682	636	669	633	624	627
	%	8,99	8,83	9,46	8,95	8,76	8,82
România		7.588	7.204	7.069	7.074	7.127	7.108

Source: insse.ro

The distribution of the number of units of educational units in Romania in the year 2015 is the following:

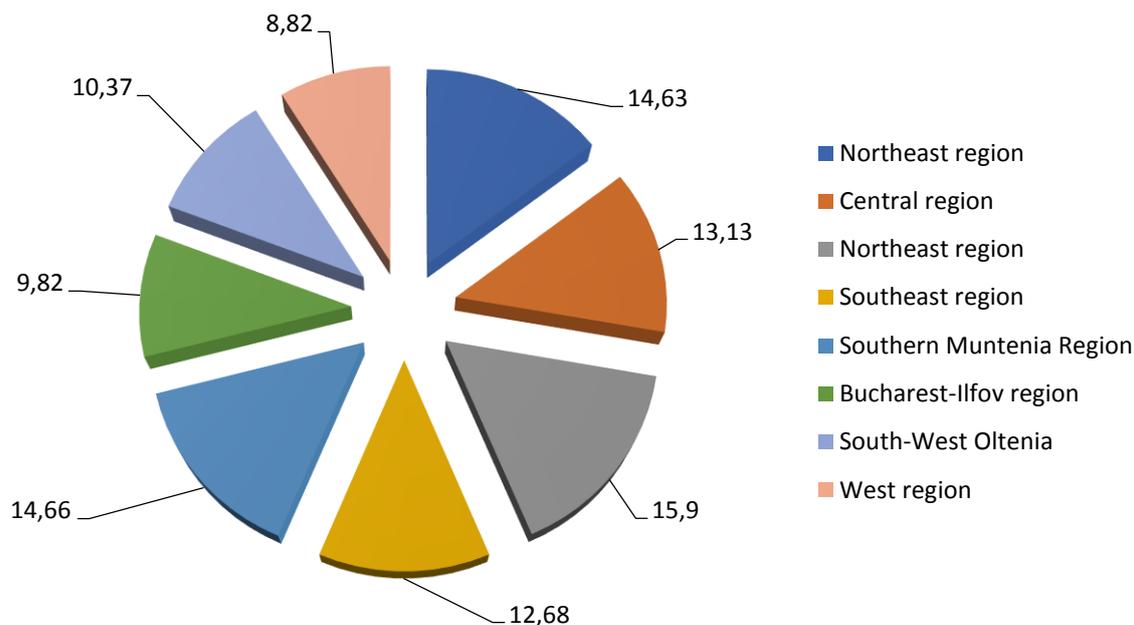


Chart no. 2 Distribute the number of educational units in Romania in 2015

According to the data in chart no. 2 the highest number of educational units is in the northeast region (15.9%), and in the South-West Oltenia region which is the subject of study of this article the share of the number of education units is 10.37%.

Analyzing the distribution of the number of educational units between urban and rural areas (Table 4), it is noticed that at the level of 2015 out of a total of 737 educational units, 419 are in rural areas.

Table no. 4 Distribute the number of educational units in urban and rural areas

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Indicators		Years					
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Regiunea sud-vest Oltenia		770	744	751	761	746	737
Urban	nr.	338	328	332	339	320	318
	%	43,90	44,09	44,21	44,55	42,90	43,15
Rural	nr.	432	416	419	422	426	419
	%	56,10	55,91	55,79	55,45	57,10	56,85

Source: insse.ro

Migration and urbanization have positive effects on the economic development of a nation, and any attempt to artificially restrict their influence is inefficient. The attempt to control migration to the urban environment through a reform of the rural education system has not been successful in any country, although less developed countries subscribe to this idea.

The predilection to migration is the result of the perception of urban employment opportunities and has nothing to do with what it learns in school.

As far as the evolution of the school population is concerned, this is related, on the one hand, to the decrease of the birth rate and the migration of the families with children abroad and, on the other hand, to the accessibility to education and to the diversification of the educational offer.

Regarding the total school population in the South-West Oltenia region, in the school year 2014/2015 it was 343,578, the highest number being in the counties Dolj (34,66%), Olt (19,05%) and Valcea (16,56%), these counties being also the most important from a demographic point of view. At the regional level, for the same school year, the highest share of the school population registered primary and secondary education (47,03%), followed by high school education (22,46%) and higher (8,2 %). At the county level, almost half of the school population is included in the primary and secondary education in the counties of Dolj and Olt, at the opposite pole being Mehedinți County. The highest share of lyceums was recorded in Dolj County (21,58%), and at the opposite pole in Mehedinți County (9,95%).

Table no. 5 Evolution of the school population in the South-West Oltenia region

Years		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Indicators							
Regiunea sud-vest Oltenia		402.670	381.465	371.148	361.387	358.756	343.578
Dolj	nr.	136.748	126.783	123.062	120.155	122.989	119.108
	%	33,96	33,24	33,16	33,25	34,28	34,67
Gorj	nr.	74.595	71.358	68.792	66.728	64.481	61182
	%	18,53	18,71	18,53	18,46	17,97	17,81
Mehedinți	nr.	49.171	46.812	46.057	44.224	43.552	40.905
	%	12,21	12,27	12,41	12,24	12,14	11,91
Olt	nr.	73.991	72.638	71.669	68.989	68.048	65.478
	%	18,38	19,04	19,31	19,09	18,97	19,06
Vâlcea	nr.	68.165	63.874	61.568	61.291	59.686	56.905
	%	16,93	16,74	16,59	16,96	16,64	16,56
Total România		4.029.226	3.823.515	3.734.326	3.650.933	3.735.552	3.642.632

Source: insse.ro

Analyzing the evolution of the school population in the South-West Oltenia region compared to the other regions of Romania (Table 6) it is observed that in the year 2015, in the South-West Oltenia region, the school population was 9,43%, the largest share Large being registered in the Northeast region.

Table no. 6 Evolution of the school population in the South-West Oltenia region compared to the other regions of Romania

Years		UM	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Indicators								
Regiunea nord-vest	nr.	533.240	516.575	503.992	497.107	514.067	503.343	
	%	13,23	13,51	13,50	13,62	13,76	13,82	
Regiunea centru	nr.	489.346	455.781	444.958	434.897	443.338	433.886	
	%	12,14	11,92	11,92	11,91	11,87	11,91	
Regiunea nord-est	nr.	707.377	686.369	675.031	658.410	664.538	644.768	
	%	17,56	17,95	18,08	18,03	17,79	17,70	
Regiunea sud-est	nr.	486.012	466.122	456.284	445.950	447.976	436.396	

	%	12,06	12,19	12,22	12,21	11,99	11,98
Regiunea sud-muntenia	nr.	523.362	505.704	499.990	487.096	487.097	471.648
	%	12,99	13,23	13,39	13,34	13,04	12,95
Regiunea București-Ilfov	nr.	517.754	463.699	444.778	437.965	486.264	484.788
	%	12,85	12,13	11,91	12,00	13,02	13,31
Regiunea sud-vest Oltenia	nr.	402.670	381.465	371.148	361.387	358.756	343.578
	%	9,99	9,98	9,94	9,90	9,60	9,43
Regiunea vest	nr.	369.465	347.800	338.145	328.121	333516	324225
	%	9,17	9,10	9,06	8,99	8,93	8,90
Total România		4.029.226	4.029.226	3.823.515	3.734.326	3.650.933	3.735.552

Source: insse.ro

The distribution of the school population in the eight regions of Romania in the year 2015 is the following:

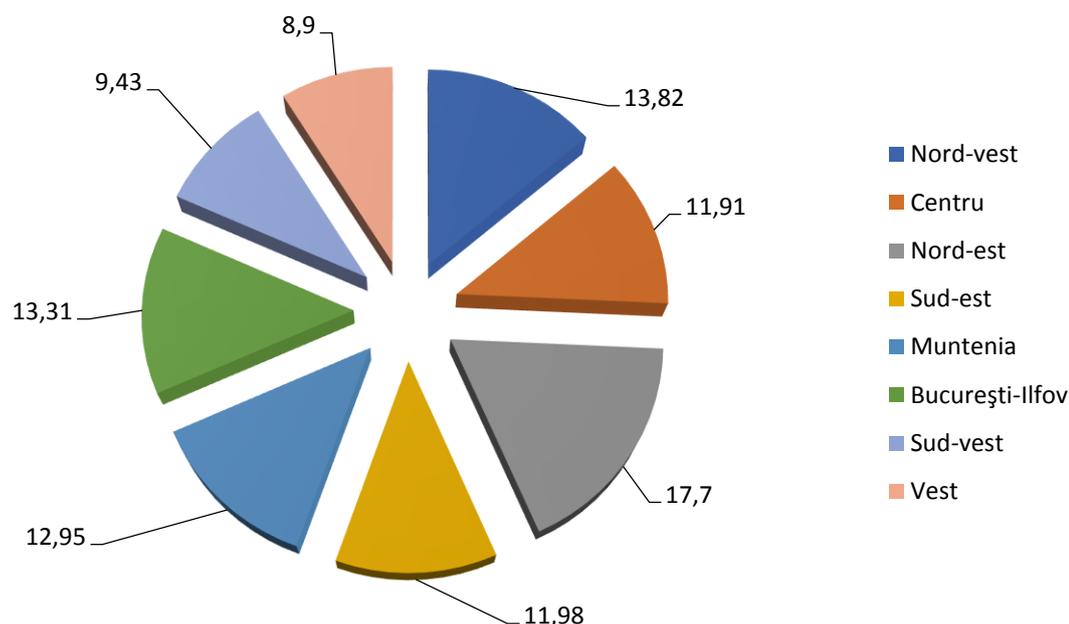


Chart no. 3 Distribution of the school population in the eight regions of Romania, at the level of 2015

According to the data in chart no. 3 in the Northeast region is the highest level of the school population (17.7%), and the opposite is the western region where the school population is 8.9%.

Analyzing the distribution of the school population by residence area in the South-West Oltenia region (Table 7), it is noticed that in the year 2015 of the total population of 343,578, only 112,610 individuals are in the rural environment.

Table no. 7 Evolution of the school population by residence area in the South-West Oltenia region

Years		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
South-West Oltenia		402.670	381.465	371.148	361.387	358.756	343.578
Urban	nr.	265.943	251.594	243.744	238.597	240.825	230.968
	%	66,04	65,95	65,67	66,02	67,13	67,22
Rural	nr.	136.727	129.871	127.404	122.790	117.931	112.610
	%	33,96	34,05	34,33	33,98	32,87	32,78

Source: insse.ro

From the data presented in table no. We note that at the level of 2015, 67.22% of the school population is in the urban environment. The main reason why people migrate from one environment to another, and especially from rural areas to the urban environment, is the opportunity to earn an income on employment.

When disparities between urban and rural opportunities are lower, the predilection of educated people to migrate from rural to urban areas decreases.

Regarding the number and evolution of teaching staff, this indicator is in direct correlation with the evolution of the school population and the number of school units. Thus, at the same time as the analysis, the teaching staff at the level of the South-West Oltenia region registered a decreasing trend generated by the decrease of the school population and the number of educational units.

In order for the Romanian education system to be competitive at the level existing in the European Union, it is necessary to make considerable investments in the educational infrastructure that will allow the students the best learning conditions, thus creating a framework for a quality education system.

3. Conclusions

The education and training of children, young people and adults is a process whose main purpose is the formation of competences that can be understood as a multifunctional and transferable set of knowledge, skills, skills and aptitudes resulting from career guidance and counseling services.

At the level of South-West Oltenia, the total number of preschool, school, high school, post-secondary, vocational and higher education units was 737 in 2014/2015, representing 10.36% of the total number of units at national level .

Due to the restructuring of the educational units, the number of school units in the South-West Oltenia region declined in the period 2010-2015, so that at the end of this period the total number of school units was 737 with 33 less comparative With 2010.

Analyzing the evolution of the school population in the South-West Oltenia region compared to the other regions of Romania (Table 2) it is observed that in the year 2015, in the South-West Oltenia region, the school population was 9,43%, the highest share Large being registered in the Northeast region.

Lifelong learning is based both on the training and the development of skills specific to a field of activity or qualification, as well as key competences. Learning is a lifelong process that takes place both in formal, non-formal and informal learning contexts.

Education improves the knowledge and skills of individuals. Thus, they are oriented to finding a job suitable for their training, which will provide them with an adequate income. When they find these job opportunities in the living environment, they will continue to work there, contributing to the economic development of the area. When individuals do not find these opportunities, they will migrate to other areas, usually migrating from urban to rural areas.

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