

## NUMERICAL EVOLUTION OF THE POPULATION OF THE LOCALITIES BETWEEN BLAJ AND COPȘA MICĂ AFTER 1989

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**ABSTRACT:** *The population of a territory is presented in the form of a dynamic system, which presents inputs and outputs of the system. The evolution in time and space is determined by political, economic, and socio-cultural factors.*

**Keywords:** *population; census; statistics; demography;*

### Introduction

The population (of a region) is a human community made up of people, who live in a certain period of time and in a well-defined territory. In terms of interpersonal relationships and the relationships that are established between the man and the environment, but also the structural changes that occur in human communities, the population can be seen as a system. The population can be a relatively autonomous system, both closed and open. Closed demographic systems are those in which both inputs and outputs take place only in and out of the system, through births and deaths, respectively. The open demographic system is characterized by the fact that inflows occur both from within the system, through births, and from outside it, through immigration, and exits/outputs take place through both emigration and deaths [3].

Social systems are made up of objects, phenomena, and processes that are interconnected in such a way that they are constantly modified and adapted to specific local conditions. Demographic systems, like any geographical system, have inputs and outputs that represent the influence of the

environment on the population and / or the influence of the population on the environment. Due to these interconnections, demographic systems are open or closed systems that vary in time and space, owing to the self-regulation function. A closed system assumes that entries and exits take place only inside the system (birth / mortality), and open systems involve entries and exits both inside the system (birth / mortality) and outside it (migratory flow). Regardless of the type of system, the inputs and outputs cause changes and transformations of the system in time and space. All these can be very easily observed following the analysis of statistical data series [1], [2].

### Problem description

For the present study, we chose the localities located between Blaj (Municipality) and Colșa Mică, and the demographic analysis of the numerical evolution of the population was carried out for the post-December period. The review activity carried out by the Romanian state authorities took place at an interval of 10 years and during this time (20 years) three population censuses were conducted in the years: 1992,

2020 and 2011. In the present study, we analysed the numerical evolution of the population in this territory. The data used to illustrate the specific aspects were collected from the National Institute of Statistics.

### Results and discussions

The analysed area (fig.1) is located between the Cergău Plateau (south), the Hârtibaciul Plateau (east) and the Târnava Mică Hills (north), more precisely, most of the human settlements are located in the

mindset of the young population under the age of 30 (after 1990). The mentality of the population is a very important sociological factor, leading in time to either a demographic increase or a decrease in population. In the analysed context, we refer to the fact that after 1990 the age of nuptials changed, it increased constantly, reaching approx. 30 years; the age at which young mothers give birth to their first child has also increased; a higher educability of females is also added to these factors, so the women are less concerned with starting a home, a

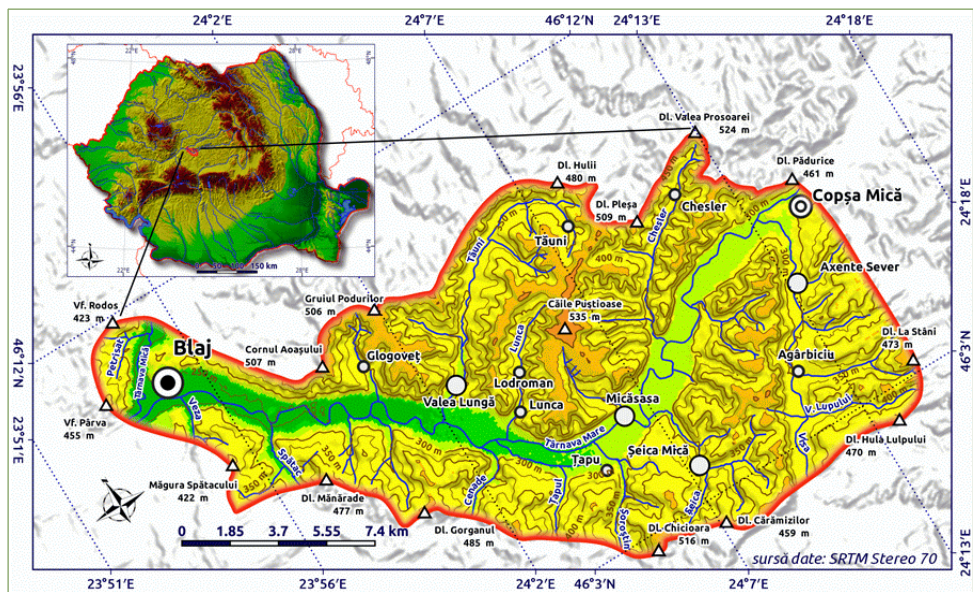


Fig. 1. Geographical position, relief units

Târnava Mică corridor, at altitudes which are between 300 m and 450 m.

Thus, there are two localities with the rank of city and eleven villages grouped in three communes (table . 1). The evolution of the number of inhabitants was influenced by several factors, the most important being the decisions of the political factors that determined the negative evolutions of economic activities, rural-urban migration, external migration, legalization / prohibition of abortions and finally - the changing

Table 1 The analyzed localities

Nr. crt	UAT	Rang
1	Blaj	municipality
2	Copșa Mică	town
3	Valea Lungă	communal residence
4	Glogoveț	village
5	Tăuni	village
6	Lodroman	village
7	Lunca	village
8	Axente Sever	communal residence
9	Agârbiciu	village
10	Micăsasa	communal residence
11	Țapu	village
12	Chesler	village
13	Șeica Mică	communal residence

from this moment an acute decrease of the population is visible. After analysing the statistical data, we find that at the 1977 census the total population of the analysed region was 35,890 inhabitants and then increased until 1992 to 36,661 inhabitants, then decreased steadily, reaching the 2011 census at 33,574 inhabitants. Copșa Mică is the only locality where the population increased by 72 inhabitants (table 2) [6], [8].

pollution from the Sometra S.A. factory, but also to the increase of the former rural exodus [5].

### Conclusions

The geo-cultural space specific to the lower course of the Târnava Mică valley, has been well populated over time, due to local environmental conditions that have favored intense housing. The demographic element

Table 2. Numerical evolution of the population at censuses

UAT	Census 1977	Census 1992	Census 2002	Census 2011
<b>Blaj</b>	15466	20651	19037	18969
<b>Copșa Mică</b>	6194	5332	5369	5404
<b>Valea Lungă</b>	3576	3185	3012	2711
<b>Axente Sever</b>	5088	3769	3734	3383
<b>Micăsasa</b>	3527	2533	2414	2043
<b>Șeica Mică</b>	2039	1191	1168	1064

In the rest of the localities the depopulation was more intense. Thus, the population decreased with values between 0.08% in Blaj and 0.69% in Chesler (Com. Micăsasa).

The high values of depopulation are registered in the villages located in the geographical area of the Târnava Mică Hills and the Cergău Plateau, from where the population migrated to urban areas or communal centres nearby or emigrated to the states in western Europe. The slight demographic increase in Copșa Mică can be attributed to the decrease of heavy metal

in this territory has undergone numerous changes, in terms of the evolution of the number of inhabitants, due to the many constraints imposed by political, economic, and socio-cultural factors. This evolution was ascending, especially after the First World War and after the imposition of Decree no. 770 / 01.10.1966, which had as main effect an increase of the population. The abrogation of this decree and the opening of the borders in 1990, represented another turning point that determined negative evolutions in terms of the number of inhabitants in the area.

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