

PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE LABOR MARKET OF BELARUS AT THE PRESENT STAGE

A. I. Tereshkov

*PhD in economics, associate professor, Belarusian State University, faculty of economics,
Minsk, Republic of Belarus, e-mail: aitereshkov@mail.ru*

The article analyzes the main challenges and problems of the development of the labor market of Belarus at the present stage. Demographic processes affecting the development of the labor market are considered.

Keywords: the labor market; the real sector; the population; the natural movement of the population.

ПРОБЛЕМЫ РАЗВИТИЯ РЫНКА ТРУДА БЕЛАРУСИ НА СОВРЕМЕННОМ ЭТАПЕ

А. И. Терешков

*кандидат экономических наук, доцент, Белорусский государственный университет,
экономический факультет, г. Минск, Республика Беларусь, e-mail: aitereshkov@mail.ru*

В статье проанализированы основные вызовы и проблемы развития рынка труда Беларуси на современном этапе. Рассмотрены демографические процессы, влияющие на развитие рынка труда.

Ключевые слова: рынок труда; реальный сектор; численность населения; естественное движение населения.

The sustainability of the socio-economic development of the country is determined by the number and quality of the population, its labor potential, the degree of balance of the professional and qualification structure of personnel and labor needs, the level of its competitiveness in the labor market. Labor resources act as a resource base for ensuring sustainable development.

The balance of the labor market is an important element of the country's macroeconomic development, which is sensitive to the ongoing socio-economic and accompanying demographic changes in society. The state and structure of the economy have an impact on the supply and demand of labor, determine the trends in the development of the labor market and employment.

The results of the work of the real sector of the country's economy largely determined the changes in employment (table 1) [1; 2; 3].

The table shows that the volume of GDP in 2022 at current prices amounted to 191,4 billion rubles. The GDP rate of 2022 in comparable prices was 95,3 %, the GDP deflator index was 113,6 %.

The results of the work of the real sector of the country's economy largely determined the changes in employment. In August 2022, 4 201,6 thousand people were

employed in the economy of the republic, which is 1,9 % less than in August 2021. In the total number of employed people in August 2022, 2,790,7 thousand people, or 66,4 %, were employees of organizations.

Table 1

The main socio-economic indicators, 2017–2022

	2017	2017 in % to 2016	January-December 2022	January-December 2022 in % to January-December 2021	Reference 2021 in % by 2020
Gross domestic product, million rubles	105 199,0	102,4	191 374,1	95,3	102,4
Real wages	143,5	106,2	x	98,4	104,6
Labor productivity by GDP, rub	24170,9	103,6	41 409,9	96,8	103,2
Agricultural products (in farms of all categories), million rubles	18 245,6	104,0	31 775,0	103,6	96,0
Industrial products, million rubles.	93 041,8	106,1	169 633,0	94,6	106,5
Investments in fixed assets, million rubles	20 388,8	105,3	27 839,8	81,0	94,5
Commissioning of housing at the expense of all sources of financing, thousand square meters of total area	3 792,5	88,5	4 226,2	96,3	105,6
Cargo turnover, million tons km	133 347,9	103,1	88 624,9	74,6	96,4
Passenger turnover, million passenger km	24 849,6	101,9	21 001,7	103,9	112,0
Wholesale turnover, million rubles.	75 767,3	103,1	137 916,5	82,2	104,6
Retail turnover, million rubles.	39 158,8	103,8	67 470,0	96,3	101,9
Consumer Price Index		104,87		115,2	109,5

Source: compiled by the author according to [1; 2; 3].

Organizations (without micro organizations and small organizations without departmental subordination) employed 80,7 thousand people in August 2022 (2,9 % of the list number of employees on average for August). 94,3 thousand people were dismissed for various reasons (3,4 % of the list number of employees on average for August). The replacement rate of employees (the ratio of the number of employed to the number of dismissed) in August 2022 was 0,856 (in August 2021 – 0,873).

Demographic processes that form the natural boundary of the reproduction of labor resources continue to have a negative impact on the development of the labor market in Belarus. The current demographic situation in the country is characterized by a decrease in the population (table 2), low birth rate, aging of the population and increasing dependency burden.

The table shows that over the year the population of Belarus decreased by 94,121 people. For comparison, in 2020, the population of Belarus decreased by 60,7 thousand people, and in 2019 and 2018, the population decreased at a much slower pace – by 19 thousand people per year. At the same time, the urban population decreased by 48,225

people to 7,232,095, rural – by 45,896 people to 2,023,429. The sharp decline in the population is due to an increase in mortality, a reduction in the birth rate.

Table 2

Population of the Republic of Belarus (at the beginning of the year), 2015–2022

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total population, thousand people	9453,1	9469,0	9469,1	9448,3	9429,2	9410,3	9349,6	9255,5
Urban	7232,2	7267,1	7286,5	7284,3	7291,7	7303,9	7280,3	7232,1
Rural	2220,8	2201,9	2183,1	2164,0	2137,5	2106,4	2069,3	2023,4

Source: compiled by the author according to [1–3].

In recent years, the birth rate in Belarus has been declining, largely due to a decrease in the number of women of fertile age. So, in the whole country in 2022, 110,687 people were born, 133,940 people died. The natural population growth in 2022 was minus 23,253 people (table 3).

Table 3

Natural population movement, 2015–2022, thousand people

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total population	9453,1	9469,0	9469,1	9448,3	9429,2	9410,3	9349,6	9255,5
Number of births	119,0	117,8	102,4	94,0	87,6	82,1	79,4	110,7
Number of deaths	120,0	119,4	119,3	120,0	120,5	-	161,1	133,9
Natural increase, decrease (–) of the population.	-1,0	-1,6	-16,8	-26	-32,9	-	-81,7	-23,2

Source: compiled by the author according to [1–3].

The main negative consequences of the low birth rate in Belarus is the deterioration of the age structure of the population. Another is the reduction in the number of labor resources, in which there is a decrease in the share of their main component – the able-bodied population of working age.

It is expected, that the set of measures taken will help to smooth out the existing imbalance between supply and demand in the labor market of Belarus. Creating a flexible system of training, retraining and advanced training of personnel, in accordance with the needs of the economy, it will reduce youth unemployment; provide the first job to graduates of vocational education institutions, in accordance with the received specialty and assigned qualifications.

References

1. Национальный статистический комитет Республики Беларусь [Электронный ресурс]. URL: <https://www.belstat.gov.by/ofitsialnaya-statistika/osnovnye-pokazateli-po-respublike-bela-rus/> (дата доступа: 10.02.2023).
2. Беларусь в цифрах 2018 [Электронный ресурс]. URL: https://www.belstat.gov.by/ofitsialnaya-statistika/publications/izdania/public_compilation/index_8771/ (дата доступа: 12.02.2023).
3. Беларусь в цифрах 2022 [Электронный ресурс]. URL: https://www.belstat.gov.by/ofitsialnaya-statistika/publications/izdania/public_compilation/-index_50202/ (дата доступа: 12.02.2023).