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## RECENT EVOLUTIONS OF SOME INDICATORS REGARDING SOCIAL PROTECTION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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**Abstract.** This paper presents a brief analysis of recent evolutions of some indicators regarding social protection in the Republic of Moldova. These indicators include the number of beneficiaries of various types of pensions and the sizes of the pensions themselves. In particular they include: old-age pension, disability pension, survivor's pension, pension for seniority, pension for some categories of civil aviation employees, pension of the participants in the liquidation of the Chernobyl accident, pension of military servicemen and their family members, pension of some employees in the field of culture, early retirement pension and pension for other categories of pensioners.

**Key words:** allowances, pensions, social protection, Republic of Moldova, evolution.

The social protection is a key component in any policy regarding the population in any modern-day country, as also is the case with Republic of Moldova. To see the state of the social protection in Republic of Moldova an analysis of a series of indicators can be used, which are provided by the National Social Insurance House. The indicators include besides the number of beneficiaries of different types of pensions, also the amounts of the pensions themselves. The types of pensions that are received by the corresponding type of pensioners in these indicators include: old-age pension, disability pension, survivor's pension, pension for seniority, pension for some categories of civil aviation employees, pension of the participants in the liquidation of the Chernobyl accident, pension of military servicemen and their family members, pension of some employees in the field of culture, early retirement pension and pension for other categories of pensioners.

According to the data of the National Social Insurance House [2], the number of pensioners registered at the social protection bodies on July 1, 2021 was 679.9 thousand people or by 12.6 thousand pers. less compared to July 1, 2020. The number of beneficiaries, whose pensions are transferred abroad according to bilateral agreements was 1097 people, more by 262 people or more by 31.4% compared to 01.07.2020. The average size of the monthly pension established on July 1, 2021 was 2271.45 MDL, increasing by 12.8% compared to July 1, 2020.

The average size of the monthly pension in Chisinau municipality increased to a greater extent (from 2849.2 MDL to 3376.2 MDL or by 18.5%). The average amount of the monthly pension transferred abroad according to the bilateral agreements has been increased (from 1508.63 MDL to 1619.3 MDL or by 7.3%). Of the total number of pension beneficiaries on 01.07.2021, the majority is pensioners for the age limit - 76.7%, followed by pensioners with disability pensions (17.0%), pensioners with survivor pensions (1.6%) and other groups of retirees - 4.1%. Of the number of pension beneficiaries on 01.07.2021 compared to 01.07.2020, the number of beneficiaries of early retirement pensions for the age limit decreased the most (by 65.8%).

The number of beneficiaries of social allowances registered at the social protection bodies on July 1, 2021 was 71 thousand people or by 2.5 thousand pers. more compared to July 1, 2020, due to the increase in the number of beneficiaries of social benefits in all districts of the Republic of Moldova, of which the largest increases were in the districts: Glodeni (by 7.2%), Vulcanesti (by 6.1%), Cahul (by 6.0%) and the sectors of Chisinau municipality: Buiucani (by 7.0%), Ciocana (by 6.3%), Rascani (by 6.2%). Of the number of beneficiaries of social benefits on 01.07.2021 compared to 01.07.2020, the number of beneficiaries of social benefits for the elderly increased the most (by 18.4%). The average size of the monthly social allowance established on July 1, 2021 was 702.77 MDL, increasing by 4.0% compared to July 1, 2020. To a greater extent, the average size of the monthly social allowance increased in Balti municipality (from 638.4 MDL to 669.9 MDL or by 4.9%), in Glodeni district (from 672.9 MDL to 703.5 MDL or by 4.6%) and in Soroca district (from 601.3 MDL to 628.6 MDL or by 4.6%). Among the types of social allowances, the average size of the monthly social allowance for the elderly increased to a greater extent (from 563.58 MDL to 593.16 MDL or by 5.3%).

On 01.07.2021 the number of beneficiaries / children who obtained the single allowance at the birth of the child was 13393 persons / 13571 children or by 11.2% / 11.3% less than on 01.07.2020. The number of beneficiaries / children who obtained a monthly allowance for raising a child up to the age of 3 for insured persons was 48579 persons / 50659 children or by 2.5% / 1.9% more than on 01.07.2020. The number of beneficiaries / children who obtained a monthly allowance for childcare until reaching the age of 1.5 / 2 years for uninsured persons constituted 32333 persons / 33386 children or by 7.1% / 6.8% less than 01.07.2020. The number of beneficiaries of the monthly support allowance for raising up to the age of 3 of twin children or several children born from a single pregnancy for insured / uninsured persons constituted 1670 persons / 3398 persons or by 14.1% / 14.2% more than on 01.07.2020.

According to the data of the National Social Insurance House [1], the number of pensioners registered with the social protection bodies on October 1, 2021 was 679.5 thousand pers. (of which 64.5% women) or with 10.7 thousand pers. less compared to October 1, 2020. The number of retirees by age limit was 522.2 thousand people (of which 69.5% women) or by 2.7 thousand less compared to the same period of last year (s.p.l.y.). On October 1, 2021, 114.4 thousand people received a disability pension (of which women - 52.1%), which is by 5.6 thousand people less compared to s.p.l.y. The number of beneficiaries of survivor's pensions was 11.1 thousand people (of which women - 78.1%), with 458 people more compared to s.p.l.y. The number of people receiving retirement benefits was 46 (of which 32 women and 14 men), with 8 people less compared to s.p.l.y. Beneficiaries of pensions for some categories of civil aviation employees were 483 (of which men - 77.8%), with 55 people less compared to s.p.l.y. The number of pensioners for participation in the liquidation of the Chernobyl accident was 1596 people (of whom men - 94.8%) decreased by 65 people compared to s.p.l.y. The number of beneficiaries of the military pensions in term and their family members was 724 (of which 96.7% men), with 10 less compared to s.p.l.y. The number of those who received pensions for some employees in the field of culture was 33 people (men - 20 people), by 1 person more compared to s.p.l.y. The number of those who obtained early retirement pensions for the age limit was 1367 people (men - 100%), with 1.8 thousand less compared to s.p.l.y., and the number of people from other categories of pensioners was 27.7 thousand people (men - 75.2%), by 0.9 thousand less compared to s.p.l.y. The number of those who obtained state social allowances for the elderly was 12202 people (women - 62.3%), with 2.1 thousand more compared to s.p.l.y. The number of beneficiaries who obtained state social allowances for people with disabilities was 14986 people (men - 65.0%), with 1.2 thousand more compared to s.p.l.y. The number of people who obtained state social allowances for people with childhood disabilities was 27801 people (men - 56.4%), with 85 people more compared to s.p.l.y. The number of those who obtained state social allowances for children with disabilities up to the age of 18 was 10485 people (men - 60.3%), with 250 people less compared to s.p.l.y. The number of beneficiaries who obtained state

social allowances in case of loss of maintenance was 5756 people (women - 86.3%), with 49 people less compared to s.p.l.y. Comparing the share of beneficiaries of the average size of pensions by sex and by type of pension at October 1, 2021 (**Figure 1**) it can be seen that women make the majority of pensioners for: old-age pension, survivor's pension and pension for seniority, while much more men pensioners have: pension for some categories of civil aviation employees, pension of the participants in the liquidation of the Chernobyl accident, pension of military servicemen and their family members, pension of some employees in the field of culture, early retirement pension and pension for other categories of pensioners. In the case of disability pension the share of pensioners by sex is nearly the same. Such divisions by sex are discussed largely in the scientific literature [3][4][5].

The average size of the pension on October 1, 2021 was 2284.37 MDL (30.9% higher for men than women), which is by 234.19 MDL or by 11.4% more compared to s.p.l.y. The average old-age pension was 2269.89 MDL (26.4% higher for men than women), being by 268.97 MDL or by 13.4% more compared to s.p.l.y. The average disability pension was 1573.84 MDL (8.0% higher for men than women), by 72.85 MDL higher or by 4.9% compared to s.p.l.y. The average survivor's pension was 1717.56 MDL (9.3% higher for women than men) and was higher by 260.06 MDL or by 17.8% compared to s.p.l.y.

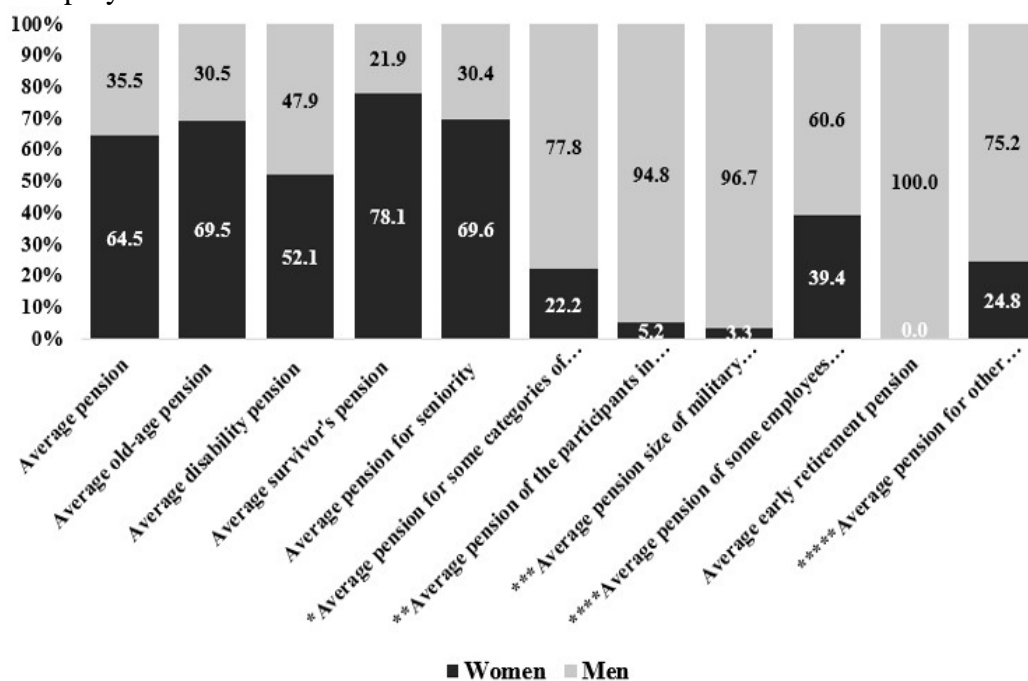


Figure 1. The share of beneficiaries of the average size of pensions by sex and by type of pension at October 1, 2021

Source: Elaborated by the authors on the basis of statistical data of the National Social Insurance House

Note: \*Average pension for some categories of civil aviation employees, \*\*Average pension of the participants in the liquidation of the Chernobyl accident, \*\*\*Average pension of military servicemen and their family members, \*\*\*\*Average pension of some employees in the field of culture, \*\*\*\*\*Average pension for other categories of pensioners.

The size of the average pension for seniority was 1053.47 MDL (10.5% higher for men than women (**Figure 2**)), higher by 39.40 MDL or by 3.9% compared to s.p.l.y. The average pension for some categories of civil aviation employees was 10471.69 MDL (45.9% higher for men than women), by 966.83 MDL higher or by 10.2% compared to s.p.l.y. The average pension of the participants in the liquidation of the Chernobyl accident was 4178.43 MDL (21.7% higher for men than women), by 232.86 MDL higher or by 5.9% compared to s.p.l.y. The average pension size of military servicemen and their family members was 1820.35 MDL (76.6% higher for men than women), by 83.15 MDL

higher or by 4.8% compared to s.p.l.y. The average pension of some employees in the field of culture was 1660.40 MDL (25.9% higher for men than women), higher by 157.14 MDL or by 10.5% compared to s.p.l.y. The average early retirement pension was 2567.02 MDL, by 501.93 MDL or by 16.4% more compared to s.p.l.y. The average pension for other categories of pensioners was 5463.28 MDL (18.1% higher for men than women), higher by 343.15 MDL or by 6.7% compared to s.p.l.y. The average size of the state social allowance for the elderly was 593.24 MDL (no significant differences between men and women), higher by 28.39 MDL or by 5.0% compared to s.p.l.y. The average value of the state social allowance for people with disabilities was 584.22 MDL (by 3.1% higher for men than women), higher by 28.61 MDL or by 5.1% compared to s.p.l.y. The average size of the state social allowance for people with childhood disabilities was 783.46 MDL (no significant differences between men and women), higher by 38.23 MDL or by 5.1% compared to s.p.l.y. The average state social allowance for children with disabilities up to the age of 18 was 806.95 MDL (no significant differences between men and women), which is more by 49.39 MDL or by 6.5% compared to s.p.l.y. The average value of the state social allowance in case of loss of caretaker was 658.83 MDL (42.3% higher for men than women), higher by 26.13 MDL or by 4.1% compared to s.p.l.y.

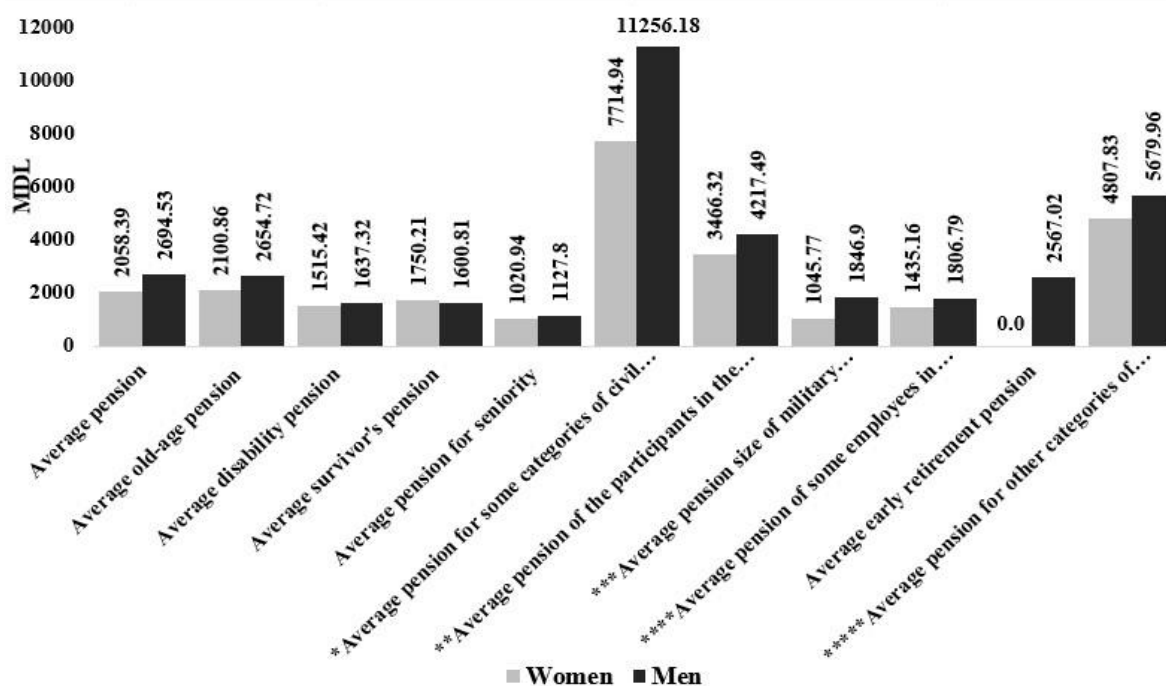


Figure 2. The average size of pensions by sex and by type of pension at October 1, 2021  
Source: Elaborated by the authors on the basis of statistical data of the National Social Insurance House

Note: \*Average pension for some categories of civil aviation employees, \*\*Average pension of the participants in the liquidation of the Chernobyl accident, \*\*\*Average pension of military servicemen and their family members, \*\*\*\*Average pension of some employees in the field of culture, \*\*\*\*\*Average pension for other categories of pensioners.

On 01.10.2021, the number of beneficiaries / children who obtained the single allowance at the birth of the child was 23154 persons / 23463 children or by 4.3% / 4.1% more than on 01.10.2020. The number of beneficiaries / children who obtained a monthly allowance for raising a child until the age of 3 for insured persons was 47830 persons / 49858 children or by 0.6% / 0.1% more than on 01.10.2020. The number of beneficiaries / children who obtained a monthly allowance for childcare until reaching the age of 1.5 / 2 years for uninsured persons was 33348 persons / 34419 children or by 2.2% / 2.1% less than 01.10.2020. The number of beneficiaries of monthly support allowance for



raising up to the age of 3 of twin children or several children born from a single pregnancy for insured / uninsured persons was 1402 persons / 2852 persons or by 5.0% / 4.9% less than on 01.10.2020.

On 01.10.2021, according to the provisions of Law no. 27 of 12.03.2021 the amount of the minimum pension for the age limit (which is the equivalent of the amount of the minimum guaranteed monthly income) was 1188.05 MDL (5% higher compared to s.p.l.y.). The amount of the minimum pension in case of a severe disability was 891.04 MDL, in case of a accentuated disability - 831.64 MDL, in case of a medium disability - 594.03 MDL (5% higher compared to s.p.l.y. for all degrees of disability).

### Conclusions

The analysis of the recent data on the indicators regarding social protection in the Republic of Moldova has shown that women are the majority of pensioners for: old-age pension, survivor's pension and pension for seniority, while men are majority of pensioners at other types of pensions, while for disability pension the share of pensioners by sex is nearly the same. Overall, the number of pensioners in the country has reduced, due to the significant reduction in old-age pensioners and disability pensioners, while changes in the number of other types of pensioners were less significant. Also, the number of beneficiaries who obtained state social allowances for people with disabilities and those that received social allowances for the elderly has increased significantly. The average size of pension or allowance, regardless of its type has increased more or less, but significantly it increased for: old-age pension, survivor's pension, pension for some categories of civil aviation employees, pension of some employees in the field of culture and early retirement pension.

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