

People

Population: 4,489,657 (July 1995 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 27% (female 588,155; male 609,372)

15-64 years: 64% (female 1,487,170; male 1,386,293)

65 years and over: 9% (female 258,958; male 159,709) (July 1995 est.)

Population growth rate: 0.36% (1995 est.)

Birth rate: 15.93 births/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Death rate: 10.05 deaths/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Net migration rate: -2.25 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Infant mortality rate: 29.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1995 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 68.22 years

male: 64.81 years

female: 71.8 years (1995 est.)

Total fertility rate: 2.16 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Nationality:

noun: Moldovan(s)

adjective: Moldovan

Ethnic divisions: Moldavian/Romanian 64.5%, Ukrainian 13.8%, Russian 13%, Gagauz 3.5%, Jewish 1.5%, Bulgarian 2%, other 1.7% (1989 figures)

note: internal disputes with ethnic Russians and Ukrainians in the Dniester region and Gagauz Turks in the south

Religions: Eastern Orthodox 98.5%, Jewish 1.5%, Baptist (only about 1,000 members) (1991)

note: the large majority of churchgoers are ethnic Moldavian

Languages: Moldovan (official; virtually the same as the Romanian language), Russian, Gagauz (a Turkish dialect)

Literacy: age 15 and over can read and write (1989)

total population: 96%

male: 99%

female: 94%

Labor force: 2.03 million (January 1994)

by occupation: agriculture 34.4%, industry 20.1%, other 45.5% (1985 figures)