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**Fertility Levels, Patterns and Trend in the Republic of Moldova.**

The main objectives of this study are to display briefly the length and features of the four stages of Moldova's demographic transition and the probable factors that accounted for the current state of depopulation. It also aims at revealing the magnitude of fertility change in response to corresponding trend in socioeconomic and demographic factors such as current age, age at first marriage, use of contraceptive methods, type and preference of contraceptive methods used, time of abortion practice, duration of marriage, place of residence, ethnicity, education and working status during the past 30 years. Another major objective is to single out the determinant factors of fertility in the country. The study stated that there are several factors that contributed to this demographic situation. The economic factor played an important role in accelerating the need for fertility decline. High level of literacy contributed to Moldova's fertility decline. Abortion has been the main method of controlling fertility since 1965 which resulted in declining the CBR from as high as 30 per 1000 population in 1955 to 24 in 1965 then to 19 in 1970. Beside the widespread use of abortion and modern contraceptive methods, the recent advent of poverty has seriously affected almost 82% of the population resulting in a substantial change in the institution of marriage. The analysis shows that the absolute and relative increase in fertility of women experienced child loss is substantially great. High school women married 0-9 years who lost on average 1.12 children had reproduced larger number of child than their counterparts with 20-29 years of marriage. The average desired number of children per woman in the country is 2.54 with only 24.2% of women desire to have 3+ children. The analysis showed also that median number of living children per woman does not exceed by a considerable margin 2 children. The data show that mean number of children born per ever married woman was much lower than that of currently married in each age and education category. With regard to contraceptive methods, the analysis showed that the majority of women started using them at an early age to prevent conception.