

Gavalas B., Kostopoulou E. , [The mobility of pensioners in Greece, \(in Greek\)](#), Demographic News, no 13, January-February 2011.

Abstract

Migration of populations is historically linked to the search for better professional opportunities and an improved quality of life. However, over the last decades migration flows have been more and more diversified and a new form of migration has arisen: people past their productive age in search of a new country to spend the rest of their lives. In the European continent, this new migration flow mainly consists of Northern European pensioners who choose to relocate to the Mediterranean countries of Southern Europe (Rodriguez, 2001; Casado-Díaz et al., 2004), and formerly emigrated Greek expatriates who return to Greece and settle down as pensioners. Meanwhile, similar movements are observed within the territory of most European countries (and obviously to a lesser extent within our country as well). This study deals mainly with this kind of mobility in our country and especially with the urban-to-rural migration of pensioners. The decade of 1991- 2001 has been chosen as the period under study and analysis has been made at Region level. Climate parameters linked to migration rates have also been taken into account, with an aim to explore the potential impact of climate on the choice of the place of relocation, since regions enjoying mild weather conditions without weather phenomena that affect the human body rank higher, both in our country and in other European countries, among pensioners who choose to abandon urban centers.