

The Changing Ethnic Makeup of Vojvodina after the Fall of Yugoslavia

Dávid Róbert Moró

University of Pécs, Faculty of Sciences, Doctorate School of Earth Sciences

Supervisors: Dr. Reményi Péter, Dr. Kitanics Máté



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Autonomous Province of Vojvodina

Area: 21.507 km²

Population (2022): 1.740.230

Population density: 80.91 people/km²

History:

Kingdom of Hungary

Ottoman Empire

Austro-Hungarian Empire

Kingdom of Yugoslavia

Yugoslavia

Serbia



Questions and hypothesis

- ◆ The main questions I wanted to answer in my research were the following:
 - ◆ To what extent is the province ethnically homogenised?
 - ◆ Where are the most significant changes?
 - ◆ Which ethnic groups are most affected?
 - ◆ Which influences are most likely to shape the spatiality of diversity change?
- ◆ Hypotheses:
 - ◆ Ethnic minorities will be particularly affected by the continuous population decline in 21st-century Vojvodina, and this change will lead to a decrease in the area's diversity.

Methodology

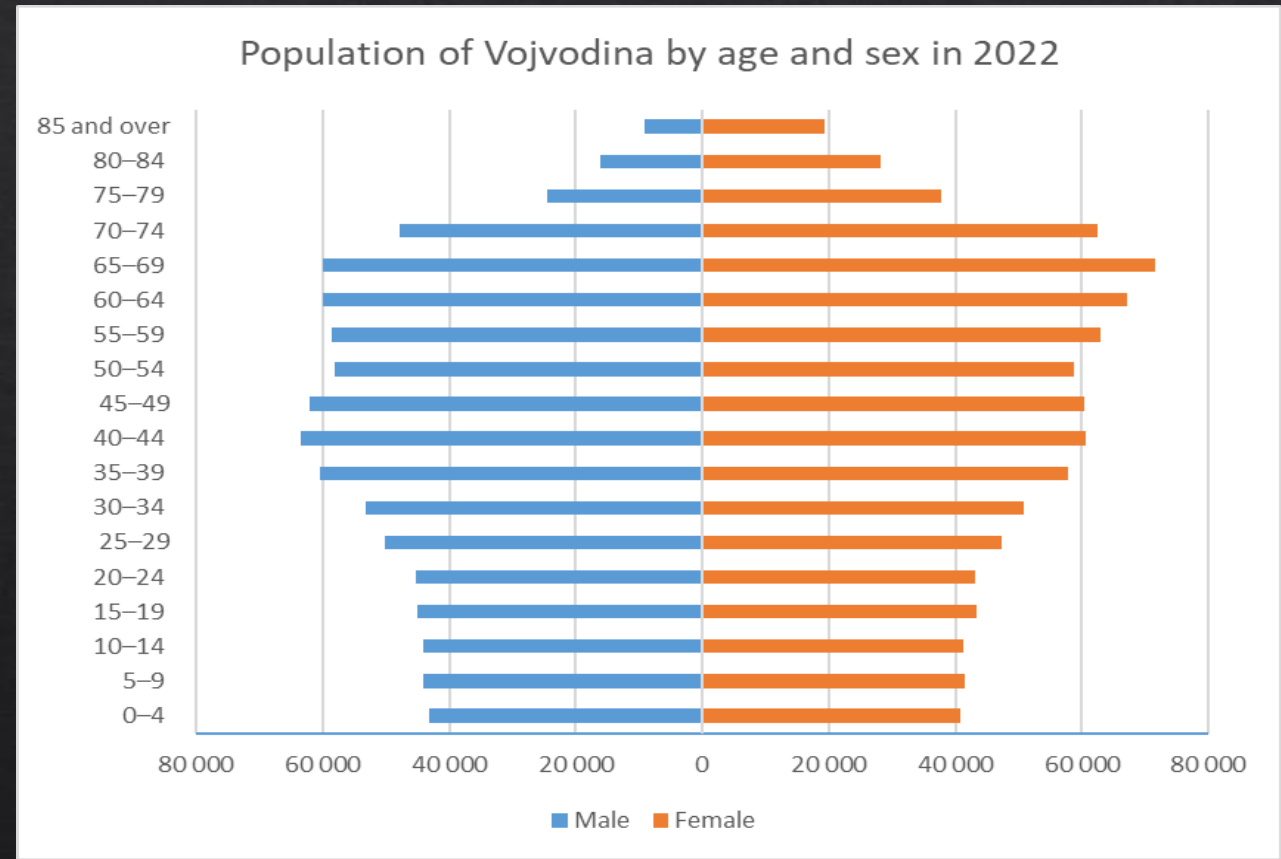
- ◆ Analysis of ethnic, historical, ethnic geographic studies
- ◆ Analysis of Serbian censuses (1991,2002,2011,2022)
- ◆ Analysis of Demographic Yearbooks (2012-2022)
- ◆ Changes in ethnic proportions in the region
- ◆ Fertility change (2012-2022)
- ◆ Emigration change (2012-2022)
- ◆ Change in ethnic diversity index (EDI)

$$EDI = \frac{L * (L - 1) / 2 - \sum_{i=1}^n e_i * (e_i - 1) / 2}{L * (L - 1) / 2}$$

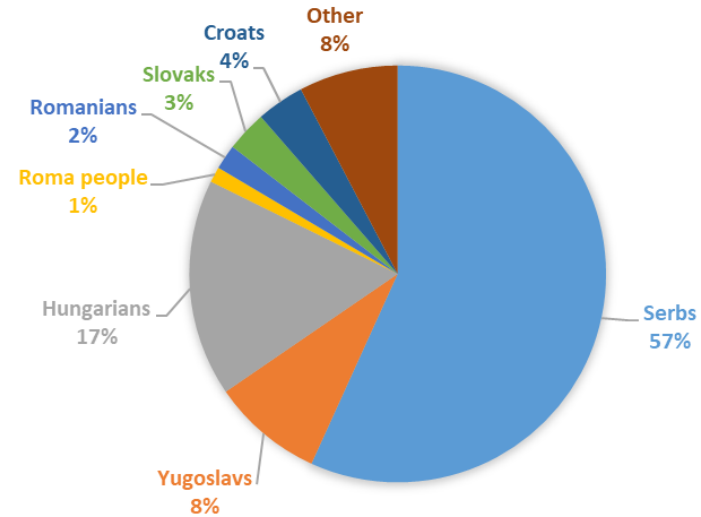
- ◆ In my research, I used the ethnic diversity index, which measures the probability that two randomly selected residents of an area have a different ethnic origin. The value of the index ranges between 0 and 1; the closer it is to 0, the more homogeneous the population, and as it approaches 1, the more heterogeneous it becomes.
- ◆ Spatial representation of diversity using QGIS software

Changing population

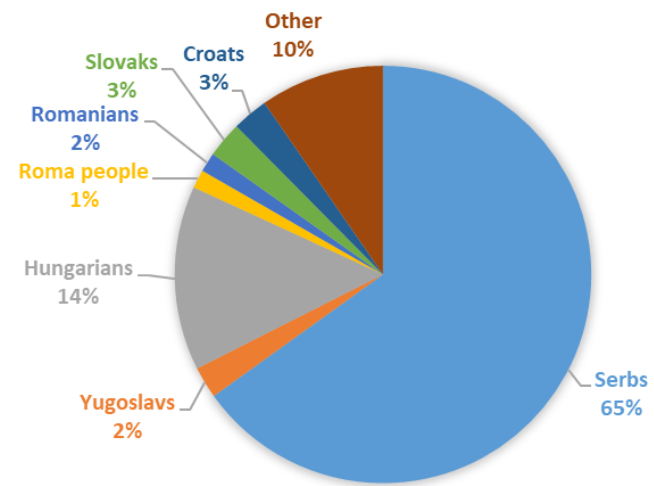
- Same downward trend as in Serbia
- It peaked in 2002 with 2.03 million people.
- In the last 31 years, the area has lost about 270,000 people.
- The largest loss occurred between the last two censuses.
- Ageing society



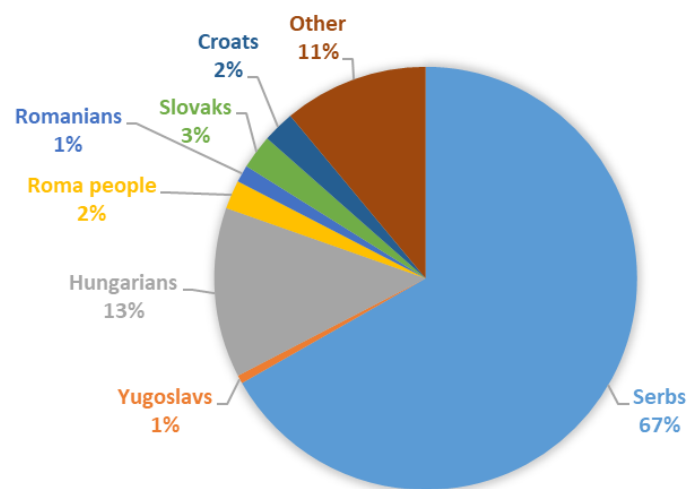
1991 POPULATION



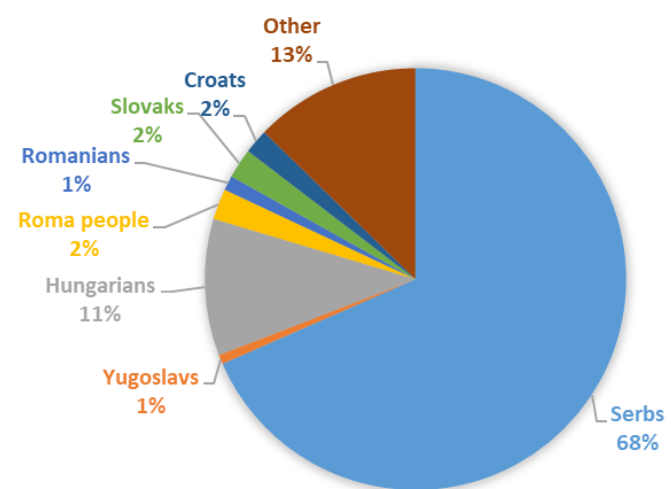
2002 POPULATION



2011 POPULATION

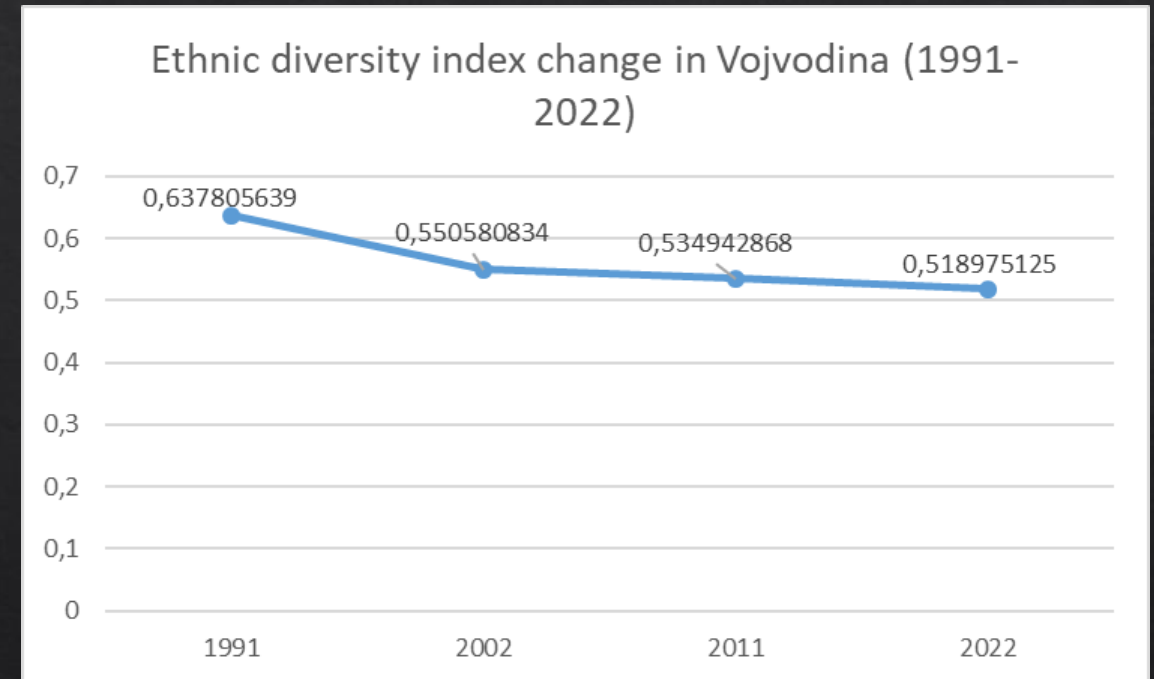


2022 POPULATION



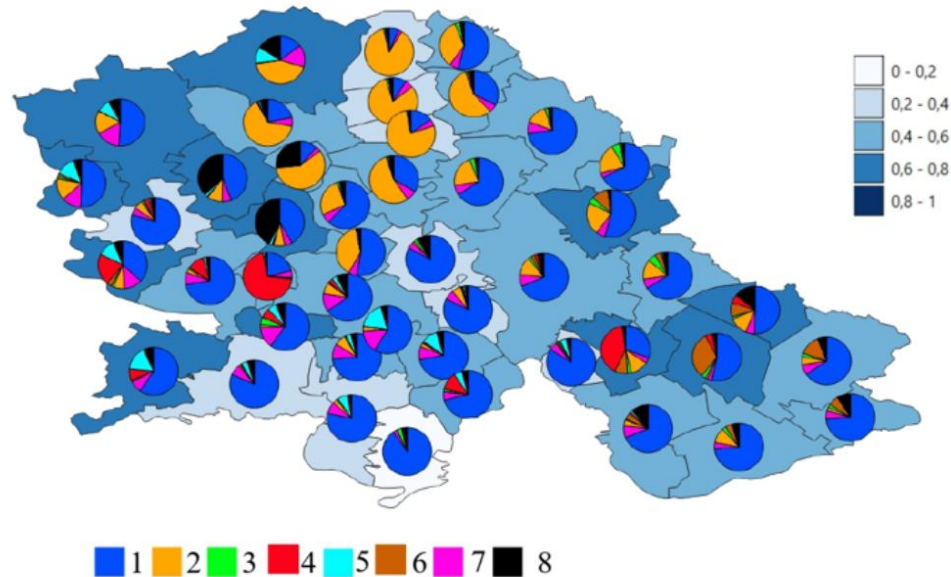
Vojvodina Ethnic diversity index (1991-2022)

- ◈ Diversity has shown a slow but steady decline in the 21st century.
- ◈ The biggest jump occurred between 1991 and 2002, following the Yugoslav civil war.
- ◈ Since the war, changes have slowed but not stopped.



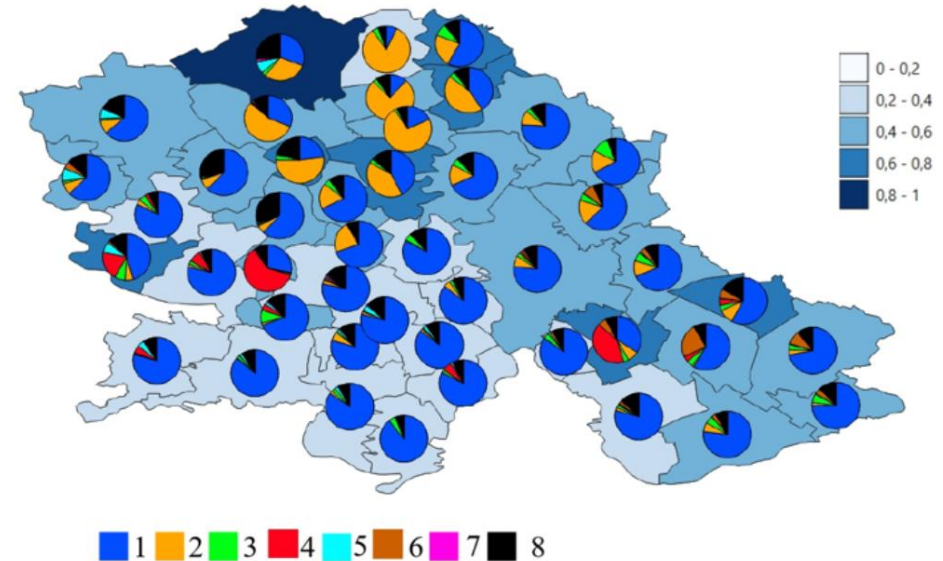
Territorial variation of the ethnic diversity index

Ethnic diversity in 1991 and the largest ethnicities



1 – Serbs, 2 – Hungarians, 3 – Roma, 4 – Slovaks, 5 – Croats, 6 – Romanians, 7 – Yugoslavs, 8 – Others.
Source: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, 1991.

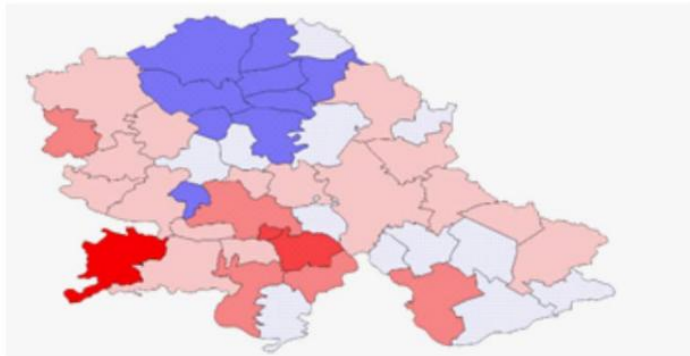
Ethnic diversity in 2022 and the largest ethnicities



1 – Serbs, 2 – Hungarians, 3 – Roma people, 4 – Slovaks, 5 – Croats, 6 – Romanians, 7 – Yugoslavs, 8 – Others.
Source: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, 2023.

Spatial changes of the ethnic diversity index

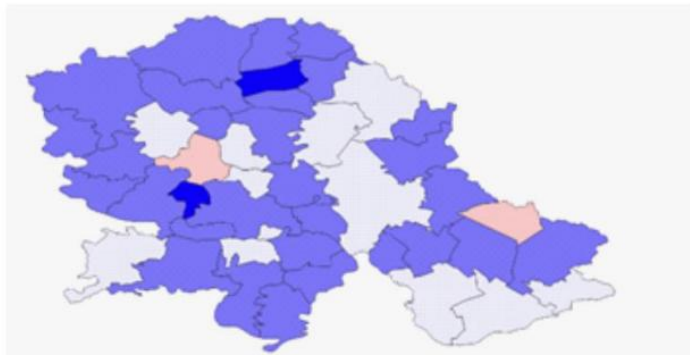
Changes in ethnic diversity from 1991 to 2002



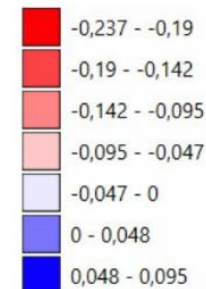
Changes in ethnic diversity from 2002 to 2011



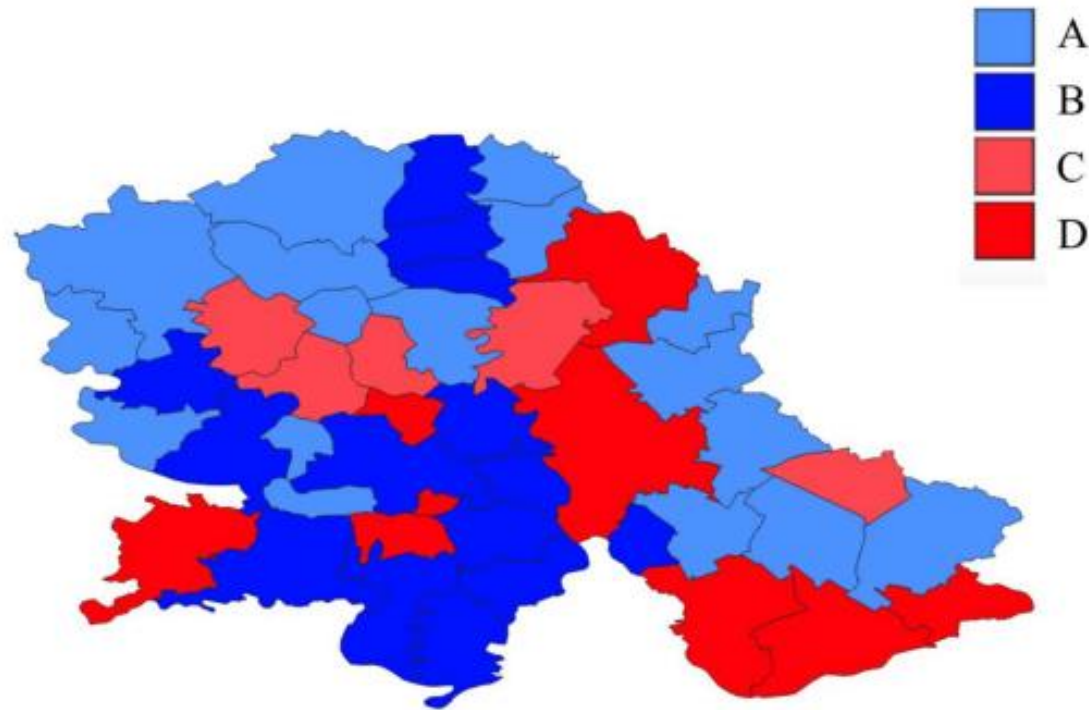
Changes in ethnic diversity from 2011 to 2022



Ethnic Diversity Index change



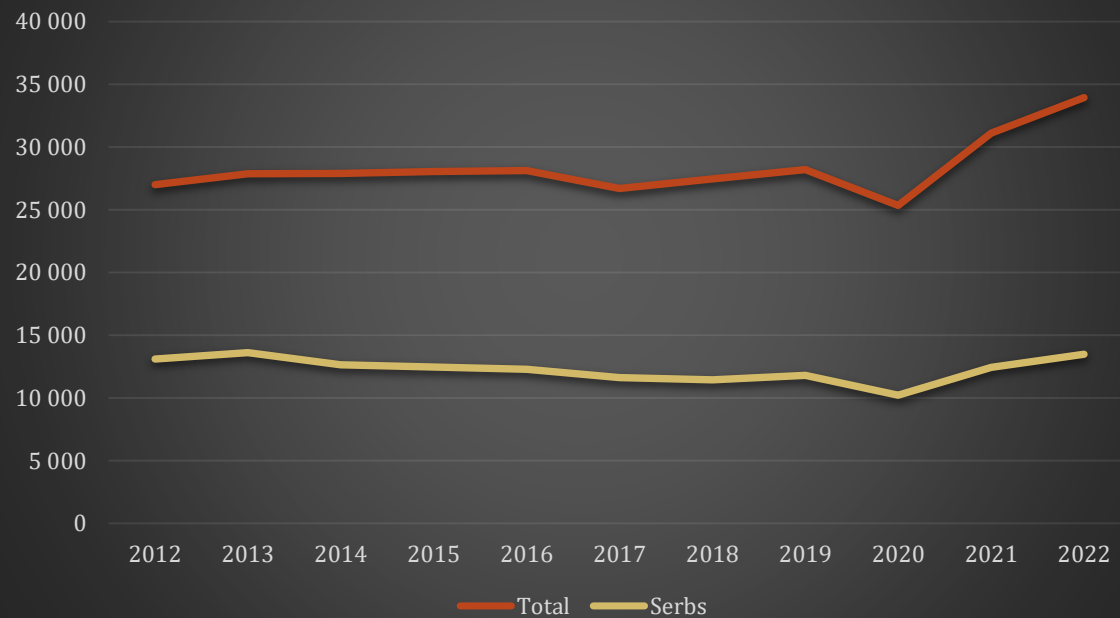
Deviation from the diversity average and change in diversity



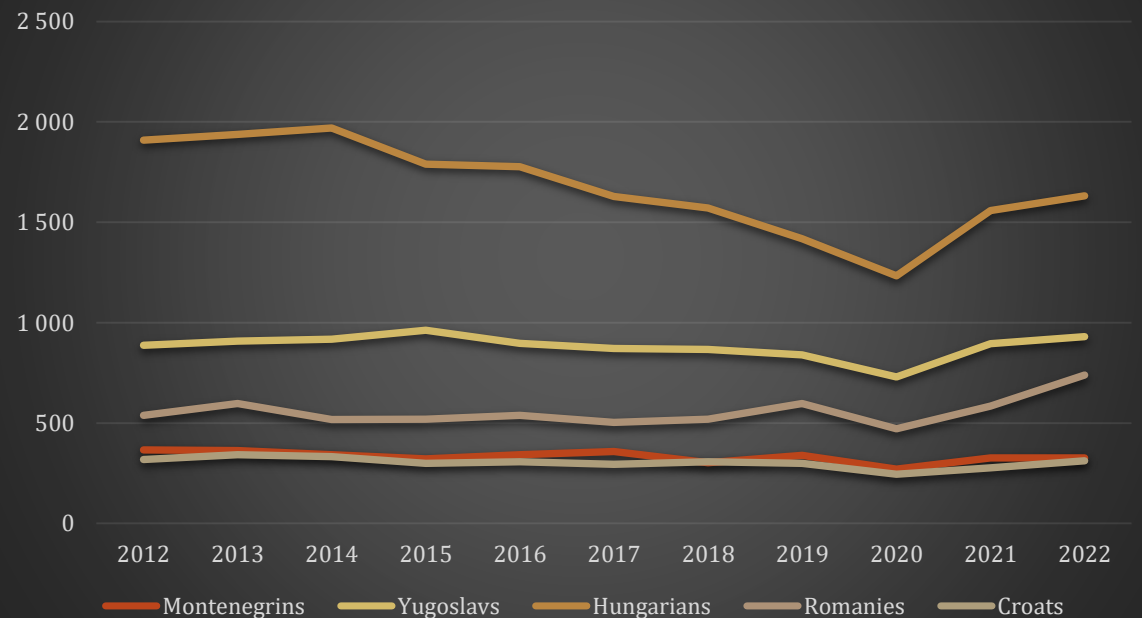
A – Ethnically diverse and further diversifying municipalities; B – Less diverse but diversifying municipalities; C – Ethnically diverse but homogenizing municipalities; D – Continued ethnic homogenization with low diversity.

Emigration 2012-2022

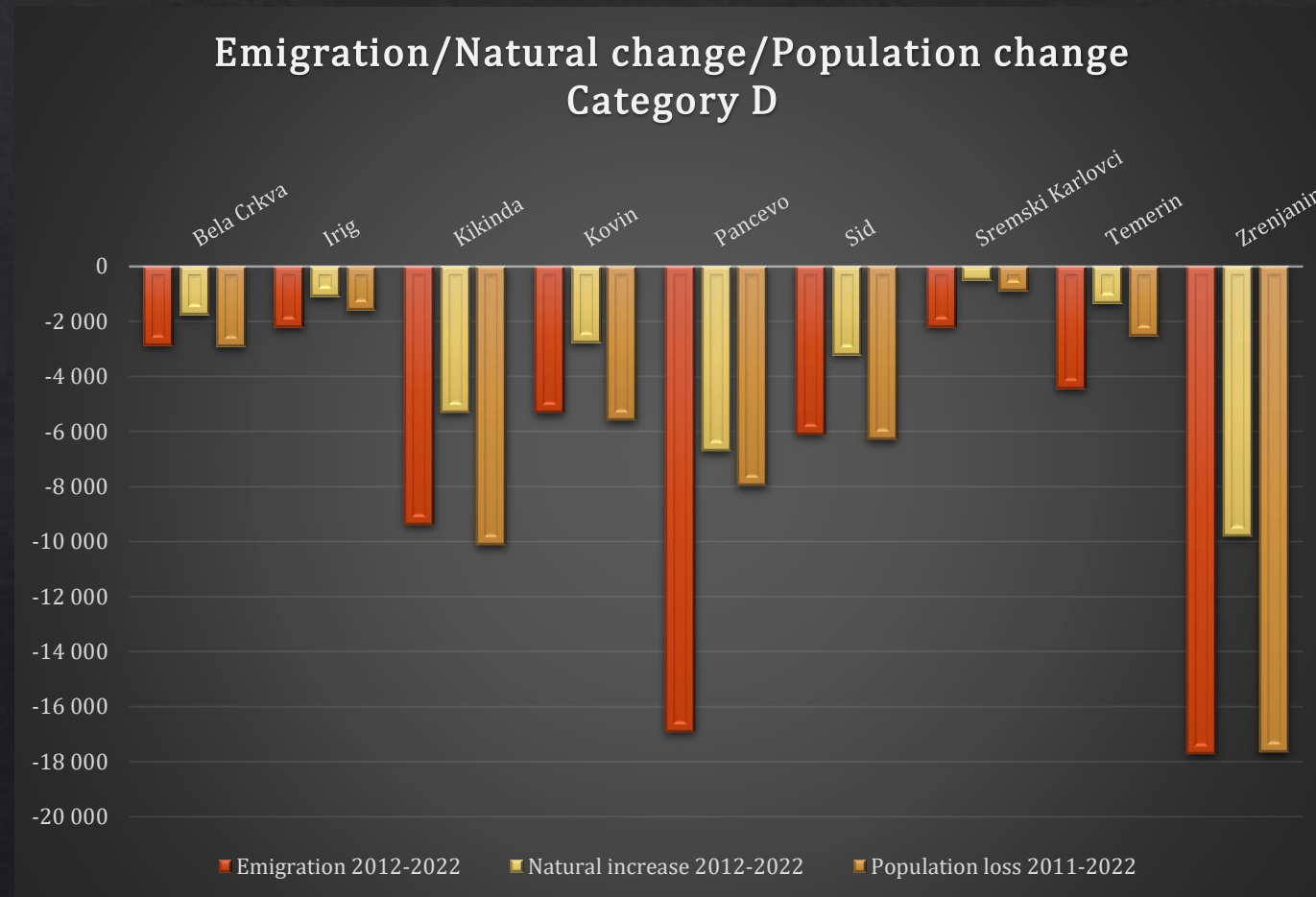
Emigration of Serbs 2012-2022



Emigration of the 5 largest minorities 2012-2022



Emigration/natural change/population change



Summery

- ◊ Declining ethnic diversity.
- ◊ Most affected minorities: Hungarians, Croatians, Slovaks, Montenegrins
- ◊ Municipalities with high diversity: Subotica (Hungarians), Bac (Croats), Kivacica (Slovaks)
- ◊ Diversifying municipalities in the north
- ◊ Cause of diversity: decline of the majority ethnicity
- ◊ Natural change accounts for half of the population change
- ◊ Significant differences in the spatiality of emigration

Thank you!