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Eugen Ghita

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POPULATION, ETHNICITY AND CONFESSION IN THE COUNTY OF ARAD IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY AND EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY

Eugen GHIȚĂ*

Abstract. *At the beginning of the eighteenth century, Arad County contained only 25 localities in the north of Mureș River, and in the middle of the century, the administrative unit was extended by incorporating two districts of Zarand County, which would then be abolished. We made calculations on population from Arad County in its extended administrative form, but also including in these calculations the Serbian military families, who, at least until the abolition of the Tisa-Mureș military border, had an important share in these areas. The growth of Arad County population throughout the period was 13.8 times, from about 15000 inhabitants around the year 1700 to 207039 inhabitants in 1828. From this point of view, Arad is different from all the counties from Transylvania and Partium. Only Sătmar County has grown quite large, 7.6 times during 1720-1828, while Bibor County increased 5.4 times and Cluj County 3.3 times in the same range.*

Keywords: *urbariums, conscriptions, population growth, demographic evolution.*

1. Introduction

Numbers regarding Arad County's population in the 18th century and at the beginning of the 19th Century are very diverse, meaning that information varies from author to author, depending on the calculation method. Estimations were made with illusory approximations, without any real basis. The index of multiplication for the inscribed people was 5, 6 and even 7, depending on what tried each historian who was interested in the demographical problems of Arad County to prove. Many of them did not have

* "Adam Müller Guttenbrunn" Theoretical High School, Calea Timișorii, nr. 29-31, Arad, eugen67@gmail.com

any factual evidence. It is understandable for the historians of the 19th and early 20th century, but not acceptable for the late 20th century ones. These historians, although they had at hand more demographical notions, limited to taking information from earlier bibliography, which they adapted due to a critical spirit rather stated than realized. The mathematical rigor and continuity are not always visible in the works which treat the evolution of the population from Arad County during the 18th and early 19th century.

Some of the sources of errors which I ran into are:

- obvious calculations errors if we take into account the methods and the diversity of analyzed numbers
- rough estimations, even when available data would not imply this behavior
- random use of multiplication indices for the conscripted population
- the inexistence of complete and reliable statistical materials for the first 5-6 decades of the 18th century.
- the administrative structure of the county, which was reorganized several times, with direct implications on its population. Some historians compared the county's population in its early and late 18th century, ignoring the expansion which took place at the middle of the century, by incorporation of Ineu and Zarand subunits from Zarand County. This resulted in inconsistent numbers and percentages, which are without any logic.
- the existence of soldiers from militarized settlements who were not conscribed in the civilian documents of the 18th century, but were an important demographical presence at least until the middle of the century.

Striving to improve the method, I tried to obtain exact numbers by using some modern calculations and statistics. I had a big advantage, given that any operation could be rigorously done, from a mathematical perspective. I also took into account the Zarand and Ineu addition when following the county's population. I verified information from as many sources as possible, and, where possible, I compared it to the original historical source or I used original archive documents in order to verify the accuracy. It was one of my primary concerns to maintain a mathematical rigor, using 5 as the multiplication index. When information from two or more sources indicated otherwise, I did not hesitate to use that number, with the necessary explanations. Finally, I tried to eliminate obvious discrepancies by permanently comparing the number of inhabitants between different periods.

For the 1701-1828 period, there are more types of sources:

1. Original sources – the 1715 conscription, urbariums from 1767, 1771-1772; 1776 conscription, conscriptions of Arad town: 1741,

1767, 1768, 1776, 1779 and other conscriptions from Hungarian archives: 1757, 1773, 1774, 1791.

2. Edited sources – 1720, 1743-1752 conscriptions, the Iosephinian census, and the 1828 conscription.
3. Hungarian and Romanian bibliography which referred to the county's population, as evidenced below.

In what follows, I will make a summary of all numbers and sources, and then, by critical analysis I will try to clarify some data regarding the county's population. As it is apparent, data is very heterogeneous. The biggest discrepancies appear for the first half of the 18th century. The information underwent a critical analysis based on logical interpretation of figures which resulted from comparisons and evaluations.

2. Arad county's population in the period 1701-1828

For the year 1700 Márki tried to estimate the county's population in its form after the Habsburgs came, that is, only 26 settlements above river Mureş. He estimated 10.000 inhabitants, which appears plausible at a close analysis (Márki, 1895: 627). The zone was depopulated after the conflicts with Ottomans, but the organization of the military border on the eastern bank was an attraction for Serbs and Romanian. There are no conscriptions for the first years of the century, but from following information we may assume that Márki's findings were close to reality. Nevertheless, we should add the population from the Zarand County, which would be incorporated after several decades. These are Zarand and Ineu districts, which counted 110 villages out of the county's 175, more than 60%. In 1715, entire Zarand County's population was a little above 10.500 inhabitants. Starting from these figures, I appreciate that the amount which needs to be added is somewhere near 5-6.000 inhabitants, which sums up to give approximately 15-16.000 inhabitants for the Arad County, in its shape from the middle of the century.

The consolidation of the Austrian occupation in Arad brought new conscriptions, which were designed for a better knowledge of the demographical realities in the new territories. There have been issued conscriptions on a regular basis, 1715 respectively 1720, which, although sometimes arbitrary and not rigorous with the total population, offer us important data on which we can recount the population. In 1715, Arad County had 981 (Ciuhandu, 1940: 29) inscribed, to which we add 1306 military families and 1342¹ inscribed from the Zarand County. We then obtain 3629 inscribed, representing 18.145 inhabitants. Consistent to the same methodical approach,

¹ The 1342 enrolled in the two rounds of the Zarand county I obtained by processing data from the 1715 conscription from the Hungarian National Archives.

for 1720 we obtain 17.875 inhabitants, from 589 inscribed, together with 1306² military families and 1680 from Zarand (Gyémánt, 1990: 179; Kovách, Roz, 1977: *passim*).

A new stage in the evolution of Arad County represents Maria Theresa's (1740-1780) early rule. A former request of the noblemen to disintegrate the militarized commons and integrate them into the county superimposed with the authorities' wish to reorganize the county. It was therefore that a big part of Zarand County was added to Arad County, namely, Zarand and Ineu districts. In this context, both problems were solved by organizing conscription, for a better knowledge of the reality. Unfortunately, results are not fully convincing for the simple reason that these conscriptions were from different years. Especially the process of dismantling the military border was slow, given that many chose to immigrate to Russia or move to other border regiments. Gheorghe Ciuhandu published these conscriptions, which he mainly used to determine the ethnical and confessional percentage of Arad County. Even if he wasn't rigorously interested in computing the total number of inhabitants, information from the conscriptions permit this computation for the middle of the 18th century.

The conscriptions issued by the authorities were the following: 1743 – conscription of the 31 settlements which formed the initial Arad County; 1746 – conscription of 50 settlements from Zarand district; 1746 – conscription of 78 settlements from Ineu district; 1746 – conscription of militaries from Arad and Ohaba; 1747 – conscription of militaries from 6 settlements which were inventoried before; 1752 – conscription of other 8 militarized settlements. Excluding the twice conscribed settlements I obtained a total of 169 settlements which formed up the Arad County at the middle of the 18th century (Ciuhandu, 1940: 30-31).

In what regards the computation of the total population, I think we can consider 1747 as a reference, because four conscriptions are from 1746-1747, and, moreover, they contain the most part of the population. Reanalyzing and correcting miscalculations I found a total of 47.154 people (Ghiță, 2011: 82).

The following conscription we can use to estimate the county's population is the one from 1771-1772. It is an urbarial conscription which tried

² In the absence of other data we considered similar to the figure five years ago, although at first glance significant changes could have occurred after the Austro-Turkish war of 1716-1718, by limiting the importance of border Mureș. At the same time there are at least two arguments that make me say that the number of military families was at least 1306 in 1720. On the one hand the number of these families in Arad increased from 373 to 410 during the five years. This trend is true in the county, proof that in 1746-1747 there were 1505 military families at a time when importance was much reduced for the Mureș border than in the first two decades of the century.

to make a precise inventory of taxing subjects, land, fields, animals etc. Although there weren't conscribed all of the people, this document permits sound demographical quantification. The centralizing statistic built up several years later and is stored at the Budapest Archives. Kovách Géza published some data concerning economic aspects of this urbarium, issuing the inscribed people amount, but two different values in the same article – 16.316 and 15.916, respectively (Kovách, 1977: 128, 161; Idem, 1980: 164).

At DJAN³ Arad there still is the typewritten manuscript after the statistic from the Hungarian archives⁴. Using this manuscript I recalculated the number of inscribed people. After the corrections I found 17.270, which correspond to a total population of 86.350. After a few years, in 1776, a general conscription was organized in the county. The centralizing document is stored at DJAN Arad and offers information on confession, sex, age groups, administrative subunits etc. The value of this “Conscriptio Animarum” is even bigger, due to the fact that it is realized for the whole county, and data is consistent.

In the four administrative subunits there were a total of 100.039 people.

Table 1. Population structure in Arad County in 1776

Administrative subunits	Male		Female		Total
	Adults	Infra 15 Annum	Adults	Infra 15 Annum	
Arad	8534	6553	7818	6004	28909
Șiria	7443	5518	7133	4641	24735
Zarand	7845	5496	6809	4903	25053
Ineu	6605	4362	6383	3992	21342
Total	30427	21929	28143	19540	100039

The percentage of population from the four subunits is relatively balanced, although Arad is slightly in front, due to it being the administrative capital of the county.

From a religious standpoint, the Orthodoxies preponderance is evident. They represent 83,77%, Catholics 8,53%, Reformed 3,84%, Jews 0,3%. Another 3550 people (approx. 3,55%) do not explicitly state their religion, most of them being serfs.

³ DJAN Arad (Direcția Județeană Arad a Arhivelor Naționale – National Archives of Arad County).

⁴ DJAN Arad, *Conscripția generală din 1828*, ms. Kovách Géza, cota dosar 13241.

Table 2. Confessional structure of Arad County in 1776

Religion	Total	%
Orthodox	83806	83,77
Catholic	8534	8,53
Protestant	3846	3,84
Jewish	303	0,30
Other	3550	3,55
Total	100039	100

The most important statistical document of the 18th century was certainly the Iosephinian census, based on scientific criteria, which confers it a great credibility. Unfortunately, data for Arad County were not rigorously studied, and bibliography is none too generous in this respect. A real use were Nicolae M. Popp's information, who, in analyzing aspects from Arad County during the Iosephinian census, used an archive document from Hofkammerarchiv Vienna, which contains data about all settlements, with the number of houses in each of them I merged this document with information about the census from Hungarian authors Dezső Dany and Zoltán Dávid, where exists information about the number of families and people from the county (Dany, Dávid, 1960: 50). In conclusion, the county's population in 1787 was 152.930, a number we can find in other historians' works such as: Gyémánt and Răduțiu, Pădurean, Lákos.

This census was the most convincing from the population quantification perspective, because it was realized by terrain work, input data having a great accuracy. All people were added to the inventory, regardless of their social status, following the central directions with utmost rigor, minimizing phenomena such as evading. The total number of houses I obtained is 25.957, a very little difference from Nicolae M. Popp's findings, or Caciora's 26.439. Knowing the number of houses, families and total population we could establish the cohabitation rates, average number of family members, average number of house members, numbers which I then used to reconstruct Arad County's population on settlements, administrative subunits, different habitat forms, in Arad town etc. (Ghiță, 2011: 199 sq).

For the last part of the 18th century there is information from two different years. For example, in 1794 the county had 26.165 houses and 149.617 inhabitants (Răduțiu, Gyémánt, 1995: 692, 718). The slight deduction since the Iosephinian census can be linked to the recruitment during the Napoleonian wars and to the worse general conditions.

In 1798 we have incomplete information, that is, Márki speaks about the existence of 143.138 Orthodoxies in the county (Márki, 1895: 741). Starting from this figure we can indirectly determine, with a slight error, the total population of

the county. In the 1776 conscription the weight of the Orthodoxies was 83.77%, while during the Iosephinian census, Orthodoxies represented 84% of the 152.930 inhabitants (Răduțiu, Gyémánt, 1995: 703). I believe this shows a constant behavior for the Orthodox confession, given that in 1804 they had the same weight. On this assumption, we can affirm that the total population of the county in 1798 was a little more than 170.000 (Ghiță, 2011: 88).

The 19th century started with a new census, which also contains important information. The taxpaying population was 182.560 and the total population 185.173 at 30.922 houses (Schwartner, 1811: 520). The masculine population was registered as a function of their confession. Out of the 92.901 registered, 78.088 (84.06%) were Orthodox, 10.389 (11.18%) Catholic, 4.010 (4.32%) Protestant and 414 (0.45%) Jewish (Răduțiu, Gyémánt, 1995: 703; Pădurean, 2003: 107).

The Hungarian Parliament from 1825-1827 issued a new general conscription, which took place in 1828. Its data are valuable for the purpose of population quantification. The number of houses, population aged 18-60, artisans and merchants can be used for reconstitution of the total population in the county. I could compare bibliography data – Kovách, Caciora, Gyémánt, Pădurean – to the typewritten manuscript stored at DJAN Arad, which the researcher Kovách Géza realized after the original from the Hungarian National Archive, and also to a work from the epoch (Nagy, 1828).

In 1828 there were 33.214 houses homing 35.720 families, amounting a total population of 207.039 (Răduțiu, Gyémánt, 1995: 692). Kovách Géza inventoried only the subjected population, without considering artisans, merchants and intellectuals (*honoratori*) (Kovách, 1987: 105-123). Recalculating for all the social categories I found 33.804 houses in 1828 and 207.039 inhabitants, which means that the average number of people per house was 6.12. The recalculated number of families is 35.536 (Răduțiu, Gyémánt, 1995: 711), which means an average number of 5.8 members per family.

The global picture of Arad County's population evolution during 1700-1828 resulted from archive documents and critical analysis of the bibliography is reflected in the table below.

The global increase during the whole period was 13.8 and from this perspective it distances from all counties from Transylvania and Partium. Satmar County had a 7.6 times increase, Bihor increased 5.4 times and Cluj 3.3, all in the same interval.

The most radical increasing interval was 1720-1771 when population increased 4.8 times. Explanations for this massive increase seem hard to fit in this stage of research. The Hungarian historiography was speaking about a massive colonization of the former Partium during the 18th century, but scientific counter-arguments of the Romanian historiography have long settled this issue (Prodan, 1944; Meteș, 1977).

Table 3. Evolution of the Arad County population during 1700-1828

Period	Source	Population of extended Arad County		Total	Families number	Houses number
		Old Arad County	Districts from Zarand			
1700	Márki/estimate	10000	5-6000	15-16000		
1715	Conscription	11435	6710	18145	3629	
1720	Bibliography	9475	8400	17875	3575	
1743-1752	Conscriptions	12736	34418	47154	9287	
1771-72	Urbariums			86350	17270	
1776	Conscription			100039		
1787	Census			152930		25957
1794	Bibliography			149617		26165
1805	Bibliography/ Source			182560		30922
1828	Conscription			207039	35536	33804

How is it possible for this considerable population increase? On no basis can demographical phenomena sustain a plausible explanation to clarify this situation. Neither colonization – scarce in the 18th century – nor the political stability, nor the increase of living standards can bring enough arguments. Only one thesis comes to my mind. Practically, until the second half of the century, conscriptions didn't have enough strictness, and the phenomenon of evading was a current practice. To this added clueless conscription, based on talking rather than terrain work. Intentional omissions were obviously more common than accidental ones.

The most complete data stem from the Iosephinian census. It represented a superior stage because its preparation, questionnaire build-up, data extraction, population registration give it maximum credibility. What happened after 1787 from a demographical point of view is normal and doesn't necessitate further explanation. Comparable evolutions happened between 1787 and 1828 in all of the counties from Transylvania, Banat, and Partium (Răduțiu, Gyémánt, 1995: 690-693).

3. Ethnical and confessional structure of Arad county in the 18th and early 19th century

On a global scale, for the entire period, the majority of population were Romanians, and from a religious standpoint, Orthodoxies. Knowing that ethno-confessional disputes had contributed to a series of misunderstandings between

Hungarian and Romanian historiography, I tried to use objectively information from both sources and corroborate them with archive documents. In the same methodological approach, I determined the percentages for the extended Arad County. From this point of view it was more difficult to determine the figures for the first half of the century, when information had to be collected separately for Arad and Zarand counties. I did this in order to get a bigger picture, and to compare things in the same space, with the purpose to observe continuity and discontinuity elements through time.

The method used by several historians – Ignác, Ciuhandu, Gál – started from the inscribed people's names. Even if results are not the most convincing, I believe estimations are possible. Acsády Ignác, the one who made fallacious approximations by limiting the weights of Romanian population from Transylvania and Partium in the 18th century, has considered, though, that Arad and Zarand counties obviously had Romanian majorities at the beginning of the century (Prodan, 1992: 29-53). He considered that Romanians represented 76.61% and Hungarians 6.98% in Arad County, while in Zarand there were 88.4% Romanians and 11.52% Hungarians (apud Prodan, 1992: 38). For Arad, similar weights gave Ciuhandu – 77% Romanians, 7% Hungarians, 16% Germans – and Gál – 76.61% Romanians, 6.98% Hungarians, 16.41% Germans (Ciuhandu, 1940: 29; Gaál, 1898: 27).

All three historians referred only to the civilian part of Arad as we know it at the beginning of the century. However, military population (which arrived since 1701) were an important group. Most of it was of Serbian origin, and their presence significantly modified ethno-confessional weights.

Gál mentioned the following proportions for the militarized settlements: 25.79% Romanians, 65.95% Serbians and 8.26% Hungarians, without mentioning the Germans, who, it is true, represented an insignificant share outside the city of Arad.

Starting from these proportions, I determined Arad's ethnic structure for the year 1720, including the part from Zarand County which was to be added later during the century.

Table 4. Ethnic structure in 1720 in extended Arad County

Ethnicity	Romanians		Serbs		Germans		Hungarians		Others		Population
	% in adm. subunits	% in extended county	% in adm. subunits	% in extended county	% in adm. subunits	% in extended county	% in adm. subunits	% in extended county	% in adm. subunits	% in extended county	
Civil Arad County	76,61	12,62	0,00	0,00	16,41	2,70	6,98	1,15	0,00	0,00	2945
Military Arad County	25,79	9,42	65,95	24,09	0,00	0,00	8,26	3,02	0,00	0,00	6530
Two Districts of Zarand County	88,40	41,54	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	11,52	5,41	0,08	0,04	8400
Total		63,59		24,09		2,70		9,58		0,04	17875

I obtained overall proportions from partial ones for different ethnicities by using a simple mathematical formula that took into account the weight of each ethnicity in each administrative subunit considered, relative to population subdivision and entire population. For example, the 88.4% Romanians from the 8.400 inhabitants of Zarand represent in fact 41.54% out of the total 17.875 people of Arad's extended form. Also, the 65.95% Serbians from the militarized zone represent 24.09% of all population of the administrative zone.

At the middle of the 18th century, Ciuhandu, using the same criterion based on names, made ethnical and confessional quantifications based on the conscriptions which he studied. His results are valid, provided that following conscriptions sustain his figures. We could believe that his writings were partially affected by the political context, but his weights regarding Romanians and Orthodoxies are not fundamentally wrong, only a bit increased. He therefore said that Romanians were 87.61%, Serbians 5.35%, Hungarians 4.75%, Germans 2.03%, Bulgarians 0.23%, and the rest of 0.03% "Greeks", without saying anything about Jews and gypsies (Ciuhandu, 1940: 42).

Surprising are the radical changes for some ethnicities, primarily the marked decrease of the Serbians and the increase of Romanians. The Serbian decrease has another explanation, excluding the wrong interpretation of Serbian names as Romanian. We know that these conscriptions were realized when the process of military border disbanding was already instated. Some soldiers preferred to leave Arad, rather than becoming serfs. They went to other territories of the Habsburg Empire, where they could fulfill their military duties, or they migrated to Russia at the call of Tsar Empress Elizabeth.

Ulterior conscriptions made by authorities are theoretically more credible and offer us a better picture of the reality. The document from 1776⁵ speaks about 83.78% Orthodoxies, 8.53% Catholics, 3.84% Protestants, 0.3% Jews and 3.55% other categories with unknown religion. The latter are extraneous people, housekeepers and hospitalized people.

Table 5. Confessional structure in subunits of Arad County in 1776

Confession	Orthodox		Catholics		Protestant		Jewish		Others		Total population	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Administrative units												
Arad District	21452	74,21	5170	17,88	148	0,51	107	0,37	2032	7,03	28909	100
Șiria District	21764	87,99	2225	9,00	3	0,01	196	0,79	547	2,21	24735	100
Zarand District	20342	81,20	848	3,38	3221	12,86		0,00	642	2,56	25053	100
Ineu District	20248	94,87	291	1,36	474	2,22		0,00	329	1,54	21342	100
Total	83806	83,77	8534	8,53	3846	3,84	303	0,30	3550	3,55	100039	100

⁵ DJAN Arad, Fond Prefectura județului Arad, *Conscripția comitatului Arad – 1776*.

On the four administrative subunits – Arad, Șiria, Zarand and Ineu – there are marked differences.

Most Catholics were in Arad (17.88%), while in Ineu Orthodoxies were 94.8%. Protestants were mostly in the plain area of the county, while Jews were only 0.3%.

These figures are confirmed by the Iosephinian census which inventoried the population also by confession, but also by the 1804 conscription, when religion was registered only for male population. For the 1828's conscription the confessional percentage is taken from more sources, existing some differences between them (Pădurean, 2003: 261; Caciora, 2006: 257-262; Răduțiu, Gyémánt, 1995: 703).

Table 6. Confessional evolution in Arad county during 1787-1828

Confession	Orthodox		Catholic		Protestant		Jewish	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1787	128500	84,02	17078	11,17	7000	4,58	352	0,23
1804	78088	84,05	10389	11,18	4010	4,32	414	0,45
1828		76,13		16,82		6,36		0,69
		71,96		19,14		8,23		0,67

The end and the beginning of the century don't bring significant changes, although some change is identifiable to a simple analysis of the figures. The decrease of Orthodox number in 1828 compared to previous periods have to look among the Romanians of Greek Catholics confession that appear in statistics with Roman Catholics, and another part may be due to colonization made in the county at the beginning of the nineteenth century, newcomers being Catholic or Protestant.

4. Conclusions

In the following table, I proposed to inventory the different percentages in what concerns the ethnical and confessional evolution of Arad County from the beginning of the Habsburg domination until 1828.

For the years 1715 and 1720 percentages are adjusted by including the militaries, assuming that the 373 from 1715 and the 410 from 1720 were all Serbs. In 1776, at the "others" category, are conscribed housekeepers, extraneous and the people from the hospital's hospice, whose religion is not specified, and in 1828, Greek-Catholics are regarded as Catholics.

Table 7. Ethnic and confessional evolution in Arad County between 1715-1828

Year	1720	1747	1776	1787	1804	1828
Ethnicity	%	%	%	%	%	%
Romanians	63,59	87,61				
Germans	2,7	2,03				
Serbs	24,09	5,58				
Hungarians	9,58	4,75				
Jews						
Others	0,04	0,03				
Total %	100	100				
Confession	%	%	%	%	%	%
Orthodox	87,68	93	83,78	84,02	84,05	76,13
Catholic	12,28	4	8,53	11,17	11,18	16,82
Protestant		3	3,84	4,58	4,32	6,36
Jewish			0,3	0,23	0,45	0,69
Others	0,04		3,55			
Total %	100	100	100	100	100	100

For the first half of eighteenth century I have obtained confession proportions from ethnic percentages considering Romanians and Serbs were Orthodox and Germans and Hungarians were Catholic. We can remark that Orthodoxies always constituted a majority. From 87-93% in the first half of the 18th century, they became 84% in the second half of the century and then 76% in 1828. The decrease from the second half of the 18th century is directly linked to the demilitarization and to the departing of many families of Serbs and even Romanians. Moreover, colonizations also contributed to the modification of weights in the county.

Colonizations continued during the first decades of the 19th century, especially with Hungarian ethnics. This factor and the conversion of some Romanians to Greek-Catholicism have both contributed to the 76.13% Orthodox share in 1828. From an ethnical point of view, the county's population was mostly Romanian, because the Serbians' overall percentage was reduced, provided that they were predominant only in the town of Arad.

The decrease of the Orthodoxies' share is valid for arguing the increase of the Catholics and the Reformed. Colonizations with Catholic Germans, Catholic and Reformed Hungarians, Reformed Slovaks and some Romanians' conversion to Greek-Catholicism explain the dynamics of percentages from the second half of the 18th century and the early 19th century.

Regarding the ethnical and confessional structure of the settlements from the county, most of them were preponderantly Romanian. Among them there existed or were created during the 18th century settlements with German

ethnics (Sântana, Aletea, Horia, Glogovăț, Sânmartin), with Hungarian ethnics (Zerind, Iermata, Adea, Vânători), or Slovaks (Mocrea). In the same time, there existed mixed settlements where more ethnicities and confessions were represented. Beside the town of Arad, which is the most relevant example, such settlements were, Sebiș, Ghioroc, Șiria, Pădureni etc.

The established trend continued during the 19th century, both in the county and the town. In 1890 Orthodoxes and Greek-Catholics from the county represented 63.9% and 4%, respectively, while in the town, 22% and 2.5%, respectively. During the same year, Romanians were 66.68% in the county and only 18.72% in the town (Pădurean, 2003: 261).

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