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REPRODUCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NORTH OSSETIAN RURAL POPULATION AND THEIR TEMPORAL TRENDS

734 rural Ossetian women of post-productive age (over 45 years old) were surveyed by local health officials at our request. The main genetic and demographic parameters (vital statistics and age-related reproductive characteristics) were calculated. Total fertility rate was 4.05, effective fertility rate was 2.55. Families with three children predominate (36%). Family planning is largely carried out by artificial abortions of pregnancy (1.22 per woman on average). The Crow index and its components were: $I_m = 0.0219$; $I_f = 0.206$; $I_{tot} = 0.232$. To explore the temporal trends in genetic and demographic characteristics, the sample was divided into four parts by the years of birth of the women surveyed (before 1950, 1950–1959, 1960–1969, 1970 and later). It was found that the total fertility rate is decreasing monotonously from 4.48 to 3.46. The effective fertility rate dropped from 3.03 to 2.39. The expanded population reproduction was replaced by the simple one. A significant decrease in the age of sexual initiation was observed. The average age of women in labor is monotonously decreasing from 27.36 to 25.95. There were no significant differences in the age of menarche and menopause between different age groups. The value of the Crow index and its components is also decreasing.

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