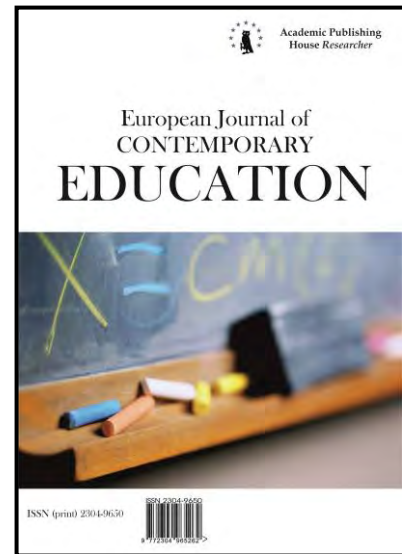




Copyright © 2021 by Academic Publishing House Researcher s.r.o.  
All rights reserved.  
Published in the Slovak Republic  
European Journal of Contemporary Education  
E-ISSN 2305-6746  
2021. 10(3): 812-821  
DOI: 10.13187/ejced.2021.3.812  
[www.ejournal1.com](http://www.ejournal1.com)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!** Any copying, reproduction, distribution, republication (in whole or in part), or otherwise commercial use of this work in violation of the author(s) rights will be prosecuted in accordance with international law. The use of hyperlinks to the work will not be considered copyright infringement.



### **Private Educational Institutions in the Caucasus in the Period 1846–1914: A Historical-Statistical Study**

Konstantin V. Taran <sup>a, b, \*</sup>, Aleksey A. Korolev <sup>c</sup>, Sergey D. Ludwig <sup>d</sup>, Nina M. Pestereva <sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Cherkas Global University (International Network Center for Fundamental and Applied Research), Washington, USA

<sup>b</sup>Volgograd State University, Russian Federation

<sup>c</sup>Penza State University of Architecture and Construction, Penza, Russian Federation

<sup>d</sup>Plekhanov Russian University of Economics, Russian Federation

<sup>e</sup>The Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, Moscow, Russian Federation

#### **Abstract**

This work examines the private education sector in the Caucasus in the prerevolutionary period. Consideration is given to the distinctive characteristics of the development of secondary, lower, and primary private education in the region.

The key sources used in putting this work together are the annual Reports on Educational Institutions in the Caucasus Educational District, which provide data on the region's schools run by the Ministry of Public Education in the period 1884–1914, and the 1879 Memorandum Book for the Caucasus Educational District.

Given the study's nature, special use was made of the statistical method, with the diverse statistical material classified by level of private educational institutions and the raw data on both the number of educational institutions and the gender and religious composition of the student body summarized. This helped identify some of the key distinctive characteristics of the development of the private education system in the Caucasus in the period 1849–1914.

The authors' conclusions are as follows:

1. Private educational institutions in the Caucasus were divided into the following three categories: Category 1 – educational institutions with five grades and up (gymnasia and higher primary educational institutions); Category 2 – educational institutions with three-to-four grades (urban schools and four-grade progymnasia); Category 3 – educational institutions with one-to-two grades (primary schools).

---

\* Corresponding author

E-mail addresses: [taran.constantin@yandex.ru](mailto:taran.constantin@yandex.ru) (K.V. Taran)

2. To be able to compete with ministerial (public) educational institutions, private educational institutions had to continuously keep track of the demand for education in society, take account of new trends, and vouch for the quality of the educational process. Consequently, the **region's private education sector was characterized by** impermanence. Essentially, it acted as a litmus paper for a reading on what was desired by society in the Caucasus. The sector was undergoing continuous change, with the number of school grades increasing. The number of primary private educational institutions continuously declined in the region over the prerevolutionary period. In 1879, primary schools accounted for 93 % of all private educational institutions in the region, in 1907 – for 78 %, and in 1914 – for just 61 %.

3. In religious composition, the **student body across the region's private educational institutions** was dominated throughout the period under review by Orthodox Christians (the figure ranging from 57 to 74 %), followed by Armenian Gregorian Christians (18 to 35 %), with members of other faiths **accounting for an insignificant portion of the region's student body.**

**Keywords:** private educational institutions, Caucasus, Russian Empire, Caucasus Educational District.

### **1. Introduction**

Private education existed across the Caucasus long before its becoming part of the Russian Empire. As a rule, well-off parents would hire private tutors for their children in an effort to have them learn basic skills such as reading, writing, and math. This form of private education was incomplete, as tutors did not have proper study guides and subjected their teaching methods to analysis only superficially. Understandably, the level of such education was quite poor, even though no other form of education was available in the region at the time.

With the advent of Russia to the Caucasus, slowly yet systematically the region became home to its first public educational institutions\*, and, where government efforts were insufficient to meet increased education demand in the region, private educational institutions began to emerge to fill this gap.

### **2. Materials and methods**

The key sources used in putting this work together are the annual Reports on Educational Institutions in the Caucasus Educational District, **which provide data on the region's schools run by** the Ministry of Public Education in the period 1884–1914, and the 1879 Memorandum Book for the Caucasus Educational District ([Pamyatnaya knizhka, 1880](#)).

**Given the study's nature, special use was made of the** statistical method, with the diverse statistical material classified by level of private educational institutions and the raw data on both the number of educational institutions and the gender and religious composition of the student body summarized. This helped identify some of the key distinctive characteristics of the development of the private education system in the Caucasus in the period 1849–1914.

### **3. Discussion**

The topic of private education in the Russian Empire is not new in Russian historiography. Researchers have explored both the history of private education in Russia and its regional characteristics.

Among the most prominent works on the subject are the following: a study by K.V. Romanenchuk exploring the history of the private education sector in Russia ([Romanenchuk, 2011](#)); a study by S.V. Sergeeva exploring the inspection of private educational institutions in Russia ([Sergeeva, 2009](#)); a study by O.K. Pavlova exploring the development of commercial education in Russia during the prerevolutionary period ([Pavlova, 2014](#)).

Worthy of mention are also the following works: a study by A.V. Belov exploring the process **of creation of the nation's public education system through the example of the city of Moscow** ([Belov, 2019](#)); a study by V.D. Kamynin and A.B. Khramtsov exploring reports by public school inspectors in prerevolutionary Siberia ([Kamynin, Khramtsov, 2019](#)); a study by L.M. Khutorova

---

\* The first-ever public educational institution in the Caucasus was established in 1802 in the city of Tiflis ([Shevchenko et al., 2016: 364](#)).

and Yu.N. Ronzhina exploring the history of the private education system in the city of Kazan (Khutorova, Ronzhina, 2013).

When it comes to research on the specific subject matter covered by the present work, private education in the Caucasus has been researched by the following scholars: A.M. Mamadaliev, who has explored the system of public education in Tiflis Governorate (Mamadaliev et al., 2020; Mamadaliev et al., 2020a; Mamadaliev et al., 2020b; Mamadaliev et al., 2020c); V.S. Molchanova, who has explored the system of public education in Kuban Oblast (Molchanova et al., 2019; Molchanova et al., 2019a; Molchanova et al., 2020); O.V. Natolochnaya, who has explored the system of public education in Stavropol Governorate (Natolochnaya et al., 2020; Natolochnaya et al., 2020a; Natolochnaya et al., 2020b); A.A. Cherkasov, who has explored the system of public education in Black Sea Governorate (Cherkasov et al., 2020; Cherkasov et al., 2020a).

Given that only incidental research has been carried out on private education in the Caucasus, there appears to be a need for a targeted research study on the subject. The research reported in this work was conducted to serve this purpose.

#### **4. Results**

Private educational institutions in the Russian Empire were divided into the following three categories: Category 1 – educational institutions with five grades and up; Category 2 – educational institutions with three-to-four grades; Category 3 – educational institutions with one-to-two grades.

The private education sector in the Caucasus was characterized by impermanence, with educational institutions opening and closing down regularly in the region. The possible reasons were lack of students (due to a portion of the potential student body being provided with an education already) and lack of funding. To illustrate this statistically, in 1885 the Caucasus witnessed the opening of 24 and closure of 25 private educational institutions (Otchet, 1886: 293), with the figures for 1889 being 16 and 22, respectively (Otchet, 1890: table 288).

As of January 1, 1879, the Caucasus Educational District numbered 84 private educational institutions (Pamyatnaya knizhka, 1880: XIII), with the date of foundation and the location known for 54 of those (Table 1). **The region's three oldest private educational institutions were based in the city of Tiflis: Belakhyants's School, a one-grade primary educational institution established in 1846; Marsova's Gymnasium, a four-grade female gymnasium established in 1854; Melikyants's School, a one-grade primary school established in 1864.** The era of the hegemony of Tiflis-based educational institutions in the region ended in 1865, when it became home to three primary schools in Kuban Oblast (the Yekaterinodar, Poltava, and Uman schools). That same year, the **region also became home to Grigoryeva's School, a one-grade primary school, in Tiflis.**

In 1866, the region became home to its only secondary private educational institution – Monastyrtsev and Ter-Akopov's Gymnasium, a five-grade male gymnasium in Tiflis. Of note is the fact that S.I. Monastyrtsev combined his entrepreneurial activity with teaching Latin at the gymnasium, while his partner, N.Ya. Ter-Akopov, taught Armenian there. Overall, the gymnasium had 34 instructors. As of 1879, the gymnasium had 225 boys, with 128 of those being boarders. Monastyrtsev and Ter-Akopov would go on to open up a real school in Tiflis in 1877.

That same year, 1866, Kutais became home to a one-grade Armenian school, and in 1871 a one-grade Tatar school was established in Shamakhi, with both going on to be the oldest in operation as of 1879.

**The region's private** educational institutions varied in type, including gymnasia, progymnasia, real schools, primary schools, and grammar schools, with a few exotic types of school also present, including an elementary one-grade school, an Armenian female charity school, a free female school, and a Catholic school.

As evidenced in Table 1, **the oldest of the region's private educational institutions that remained in operation in 1879 were those based in Tiflis, which is no wonder as Tiflis was the administrative center of the Caucasus Viceroyalty.** As early as 1865, this group began to be joined by educational institutions from other areas, including Kuban Oblast and Kutais Governorate. Despite the fact that the oldest private educational institution was established back in 1846, the majority of the institutions were opened in the last five-year period (1875–1879) – 32 out of the **region's 54 educational institutions.**

**Table 1.** Dates of Foundation of Private Educational Institutions in the Caucasus as of 1879

| Year founded | Number of educational institutions | Area                                   |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1846         | 1                                  | Tiflis                                 |
| 1854         | 1                                  | Tiflis                                 |
| 1864         | 1                                  | Tiflis                                 |
| 1865         | 4                                  | 3 – Kuban Oblast, 1 – Tiflis           |
| 1866         | 2                                  | 1 – Tiflis, 1 – Kutais                 |
| 1868         | 2                                  | 1 – Kutais, 1 – Tiflis                 |
| 1869         | 1                                  | Tiflis                                 |
| 1871         | 1                                  | Shamakhi                               |
| 1873         | 4                                  | Kutais, Stavropol, Tiflis              |
| 1874         | 5                                  | Baku, Kuban Oblast, Stavropol, Gori    |
| 1875         | 3                                  | Tiflis, Shusha                         |
| 1876         | 9                                  | Kutais, Stavropol, Vladikavkaz, Tiflis |
| 1877         | 5                                  | Baku, Stavropol, Vladikavkaz, Tiflis   |
| 1878         | 13                                 | Baku, Stavropol, Vladikavkaz, Tiflis   |
| 1879         | 2                                  | Stavropol                              |

Table 2 displays the number of private educational institutions in the Caucasus in the period 1879–1914.

**Table 2.** Private Educational Institutions within the Caucasus Educational District in the Period 1879–1914 (Pamyatnaya knizhka, 1879, 1880: 25; Otchet, 1885: 283-286; Otchet, 1886: 292-295; Otchet, 1887: 304-307; Otchet, 1890: table 288, 292; Otchet, 1891: table 307, 311; Otchet, 1892: table 309, 313; Otchet, 1893: table 310, 314; Otchet, 1894: table 310, 314; Otchet, 1895: table 310, 314; Otchet, 1896: table 310, 314; Otchet, 1897: table 310, 314; Otchet, 1899: table 294, 298; Otchet, 1900: table 294, 298; Otchet, 1901: table 294, 298; Otchet, 1905: table 294, 298; Otchet, 1908: table 264, 265; Otchet, 1909: table 270; Otchet, 1910: table 271; Otchet, 1911: table 269; Otchet, 1912: table 269; Otchet, 1913: table 236; Otchet, 1914: table 235; Otchet, 1915: table 234)

| Year | Number of educational institutions |     |            |     |            |     |       | Total | Number of students |       |       |
|------|------------------------------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|-------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------|
|      | Category 1                         |     | Category 2 |     | Category 3 |     |       |       | Boys               | Girls | Total |
|      | m                                  | f   | m          | f   | m          | f   | mixed |       |                    |       |       |
| 1879 | 1                                  |     | 5          |     | 78         |     |       | 84    | 2,133              | 1,077 | 3,210 |
| 1884 | 1                                  | -   | 7          | 1   | 30         | 4   | 54    | 97    | 2,843              | 687   | 3,530 |
| 1885 | 1                                  | 1   | 7          | -   | 34         | 5   | 48    | 96    | 3,035              | 750   | 3,785 |
| 1886 | 2                                  | -   | 6          | -   | 30         | 4   | 56    | 98    | 2,891              | 678   | 3,569 |
| 1888 | N/A                                | N/A | N/A        | N/A | N/A        | N/A | N/A   | 104   | 2,995              | 818   | 3,813 |
| 1889 | 3                                  | -   | 5          | 8   | 28         | 6   | 53    | 98    | 3,024              | 987   | 4,011 |
| 1890 | 2                                  | -   | 4          | 3   | 33         | 4   | 57    | 103   | 2,980              | 998   | 3,978 |
| 1891 | 3                                  | -   | 3          | 3   | 38         | 1   | 47    | 95    | 2,865              | 873   | 3,788 |
| 1892 | 3                                  | -   | 3          | 3   | 30         | 3   | 47    | 89    | 2,828              | 979   | 3,807 |
| 1893 | 2                                  | 1   | 3          | 3   | 29         | 3   | 50    | 92    | 3,101              | 1,174 | 4,275 |
| 1894 | 3                                  | 1   | 3          | 2   | 31         | 2   | 52    | 94    | 3,303              | 1,202 | 4,505 |
| 1895 | 3                                  | 1   | 3          | 1   | 35         | 2   | 54    | 99    | 4,032              | 1,319 | 5,351 |
| 1896 | 1                                  | 1   | 6          | 2   | 44         | 12  | 58    | 124   | 4,750              | 2,104 | 6,854 |
| 1898 | 1                                  | -   | 6          | 5   | 43         | 11  | 70    | 136   | 4,971              | 2,275 | 7,246 |
| 1899 | 1                                  | -   | 5          | 5   | 43         | 16  | 77    | 147   | 5,175              | 2,586 | 7,761 |
| 1900 | 1                                  | 2   | 8          | 4   | 41         | 17  | 84    | 157   | 5,254              | 3,011 | 8,265 |
| 1904 | 1                                  | 1   | 4          | 7   | 43         | 22  | 63    | 141   | 4,975              | 2,889 | 7,864 |
| 1907 | 4                                  | 3   | 6          | 12  | 23         | 6   | 65    | 119   | 4,837              | 2,418 | 7,255 |
| 1908 | 9                                  |     | 27         |     | 106        |     |       | 142   | 5,894              | 3,541 | 9,435 |

|      |    |    |     |     |       |       |        |
|------|----|----|-----|-----|-------|-------|--------|
| 1909 | 7  | 33 | 96  | 136 | 4,350 | 3,187 | 7,537  |
| 1910 | 8  | 34 | 103 | 145 | 6,030 | 3,647 | 9,677  |
| 1911 | 7  | 43 | 98  | 148 | 7,163 | 4,958 | 12,121 |
| 1912 | 6  | 40 | 104 | 145 | 5,723 | 4,090 | 9,813  |
| 1913 | 7  | 28 | 99  | 134 | 4,526 | 4,146 | 8,672  |
| 1914 | 32 | 20 | 83  | 135 | 3,560 | 4,935 | 8,495  |

As evidenced in [Table 2](#), the region witnessed an increase of 4.5 times in the number of Category 1 schools in 1914. This was associated with the introduction of six-grade higher primary educational institutions across the Russian Empire and the Caucasus in 1912. In 1914, a mass reaction to this came from private educational institutions, with it being done in part at the expense of Category 2 and Category 3 schools. For instance, Baku Governorate had in operation just one public higher primary institution in 1913, whereas in 1914 it now had as many as five – as a result of the opening of one new and reorganization of three existing public institutions. At the same time, in 1913 the governorate had no private higher primary institutions, whereas in 1914 it now had as many as six ([Otchet, 1915: table 234](#)).

In addition, throughout the lengthy period from 1879 to 1907 the basis of the private education sector in the region was formed by Category 3 primary schools. For instance, in 1879 they accounted for 93 % and in 1907 for 78 %. However, by 1914 the sector had undergone significant changes, with the share of primary schools dropping to 61 % and with priority given now to Category 1 educational institutions.

The private education sector in the Caucasus was characterized at the time by private schools tending to be opened where there was commercial promise in doing so. To be able to compete with ministerial (public) educational institutions, private educational institutions had, apart from watching for opportunities for commercial success, to continuously keep track of the demand for education in society, take account of new trends, and vouch for the quality of the educational **process. Consequently, the region’s private education sector was characterized by impermanence.** Essentially, it acted as a litmus paper for a reading on what was desired by society in the Caucasus. As a consequence, the region witnessed significant fluctuations in terms of the gender composition of its student body. Specifically, whereas in 1884 girls accounted for 19.5 % of the student body, in 1914 the figure now was 58 %. **The region’s public and private education sectors competed fiercely** throughout the prerevolutionary period. The Ministry of Public Education, especially in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, was keenly engaged in opening new educational institutions, attracting large numbers of school-age children, with private educational institutions forced in that climate to retool in order to adapt to the realities of the rapidly changing situation in education. That was the only way for the private education sector to keep afloat.

**A few words will now be said about the private sector’s student body. Table 3 illustrates the religious composition of the student body within the region’s private education sector** in the period 1884–1909. It is to be noted straightaway that in the period 1905–1914 information on the **religious composition of the private sector’s student body was published in the Reports on Educational Institutions in the Caucasus Educational District** only in 1909. This must have been associated with the sharply increasing number of ministerial educational institutions and the declining role of private education in the region at the time. For instance, in 1884 private educational institutions in the Caucasus accounted for 9.7 % of the total number of educational institutions ([Otchet, 1885: 290](#)), and in 1914 – for just 2.6 % ([Otchet, 1915: 149](#)).

**Table 3.** Distribution of Students in Private Educational Institutions in the Caucasus by Faith in the Period 1884–1909 (Otchet, 1885: 286-287; Otchet, 1886: 296-297; Otchet, 1887: 310-311; Otchet, 1890: table 293; Otchet, 1891: table 312; Otchet, 1892: table 314; Otchet, 1893: table 315; Otchet, 1894: table 315; Otchet, 1895: table 315; Otchet, 1896: table 315; Otchet, 1897: table 315; Otchet, 1899: table 299; Otchet, 1899: table 299; Otchet, 1901: table 299; Otchet, 1905: table 299; Otchet, 1910: table 272)

| Year | Orthodox Christians | Armenian Gregorian Christians | Catholics | Protestants | Jews | Muslims | Other faiths | Total |
|------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------|------|---------|--------------|-------|
| 1884 | 1,992               | 1,226                         | 37        | 132         | 89   | 107     | 47           | 3,530 |
| 1885 | 1,894               | 1,393                         | 60        | 131         | 84   | 146     | 77           | 3,785 |
| 1886 | 1,811               | 1,199                         | 63        | 91          | 120  | 151     | 134          | 3,569 |
| 1889 | 2,301               | 1,233                         | 47        | 94          | 125  | 139     | 72           | 4,011 |
| 1890 | 2,251               | 1,087                         | 89        | 104         | 148  | 178     | 121          | 3,978 |
| 1891 | 2,022               | 1,276                         | 59        | 90          | 123  | 107     | 61           | 3,788 |
| 1892 | 2,075               | 1,306                         | 57        | 50          | 177  | 81      | 52           | 3,807 |
| 1893 | 2,285               | 1,332                         | 70        | 148         | 156  | 157     | 127          | 4,275 |
| 1894 | 2,471               | 1,204                         | 72        | 189         | 165  | 176     | 168          | 4,505 |
| 1895 | 2,841               | 1,086                         | 84        | 191         | 217  | 159     | 223          | 5,351 |
| 1896 | 3,348               | 2,514                         | 94        | 285         | 216  | 166     | 281          | 6,854 |
| 1898 | 3,756               | 2,719                         | 124       | 91          | 205  | 201     | 150          | 7,246 |
| 1899 | 4,232               | 2,877                         | 128       | 67          | 186  | 231     | 40           | 7,761 |
| 1900 | 4,788               | 2,632                         | 134       | 101         | 244  | 220     | 146          | 8,265 |
| 1904 | 5,269               | 1,949                         | 200       | 80          | 139  | 148     | 79           | 7,864 |
| 1909 | 5,557               | 1,355                         | 150       | 141         | 161  | 173     | -            | 7,537 |

As evidenced in [Table 3](#), **Orthodox Christians made up the bulk of the private sector’s student** body in the region, accounting for 57 % in 1884 and for 74 % in 1909. In the period under review, the figure rose 2.8 times. Orthodox Christians were steadily followed by Armenian Gregorian Christians, who accounted for 35 % in 1884 and for just 18 % in 1909, despite an increase in their number. Armenian Gregorian Christians were followed by Catholics, Protestants, Jews, and Muslims, with only Catholic students posting a sharp increase in number – 4 times.

[Table 4](#) displays the numbers of private educational institutions across the regions of the Caucasus.



**Table 4.** Numbers of Private Educational Institutions across the Regions of the Caucasus in the Period 1883–1914 (Otchet, 1886: 282-283; Otchet, 1886: 292-293; Otchet, 1887: 304-305; Otchet, 1890: table 288; Otchet, 1891: table 307; Otchet, 1892: table 309; Otchet, 1893: table 310; Otchet, 1894: table 310; Otchet, 1895: table 310; Otchet, 1896: table 310; Otchet, 1897: table 310; Otchet, 1899: table 294; Otchet, 1900: table 294; Otchet, 1901: table 294; Otchet, 1905: table 294; Otchet, 1908: table 265; Otchet, 1909: table 270; Otchet, 1910: table 271; Otchet, 1912: table 269; Otchet, 1913: table 236; Otchet, 1914: table 235; Otchet, 1915: table 234)

| Year | Kuban Oblast | Stavropol Governorate | Terek Oblast | Tiflis Governorate | Kutais Governorate | Elizavetpol Governorate | Erivan Governorate | Kars Oblast | Baku Governorate | Dagestan Oblast | Sukhum Sector | Black Sea Governorate | Total |
|------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------|
| 1883 | 5            | 9                     | 6            | 46                 | 7                  | 9                       | 13                 | -           | 4                | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 100   |
| 1884 | 9            | 11                    | 7            | 35                 | 9                  | 8                       | 13                 | -           | 4                | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 97    |
| 1885 | 6            | 11                    | 7            | 38                 | 8                  | 14                      | 7                  | -           | 4                | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 96    |
| 1886 | 7            | 15                    | 7            | 35                 | 7                  | 12                      | 6                  | -           | 8                | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 98    |
| 1888 | 12           | 13                    | 6            | 40                 | 7                  | 10                      | 4                  | -           | 11               | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 104   |
| 1889 | 15           | 6                     | 6            | 35                 | 7                  | 13                      | 4                  | 1           | 10               | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 98    |
| 1890 | 17           | 11                    | 8            | 31                 | 7                  | 14                      | 5                  | -           | 9                | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 103   |
| 1891 | 18           | 7                     | 5            | 28                 | 9                  | 12                      | 5                  | -           | 10               | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 95    |
| 1892 | 15           | 8                     | 5            | 26                 | 10                 | 10                      | 4                  | -           | 10               | 1               | N/A           | N/A                   | 89    |
| 1893 | 12           | 7                     | 5            | 31                 | 10                 | 10                      | 5                  | -           | 12               | -               | N/A           | N/A                   | 92    |
| 1894 | 10           | 6                     | 6            | 34                 | 11                 | 10                      | 6                  | -           | 11               | -               | N/A           | N/A                   | 94    |
| 1895 | 9            | 7                     | 5            | 33                 | 14                 | 9                       | 6                  | -           | 16               | -               | N/A           | N/A                   | 99    |
| 1896 | 8            | 8                     | 5            | 38                 | 16                 | 15                      | 11                 | -           | 21               | -               | N/A           | 2                     | 125   |
| 1897 | 11           | 8                     | 6            | 44                 | 15                 | 15                      | 13                 | -           | 25               | -               | N/A           | 1                     | 138   |
| 1898 | 8            | 8                     | 5            | 43                 | 15                 | 14                      | 9                  | -           | 32               | -               | N/A           | 2                     | 136   |
| 1899 | 10           | 7                     | 4            | 50                 | 16                 | 10                      | 8                  | 1           | 37               | 2               | N/A           | 2                     | 147   |
| 1900 | 11           | 4                     | 6            | 57                 | 19                 | 9                       | 9                  | 1           | 37               | 2               | N/A           | 2                     | 157   |
| 1903 | 10           | 4                     | 5            | 54                 | 28                 | 5                       | 12                 | 2           | 22               | 1               | N/A           | 2                     | 145   |
| 1904 | 14           | 5                     | 5            | 47                 | 29                 | 5                       | 14                 | 1           | 18               | -               | N/A           | 3                     | 141   |
| 1906 | 12           | 3                     | 7            | 19                 | 37                 | 2                       | 10                 | -           | 8                | 1               | N/A           | 3                     | 102   |
| 1907 | 14           | 4                     | 8            | 26                 | 41                 | 2                       | 12                 | -           | 7                | 1               | N/A           | 4                     | 119   |
| 1908 | 15           | 5                     | 10           | 44                 | 36                 | 3                       | 11                 | -           | 7                | 1               | N/A           | 9                     | 142   |
| 1909 | 14           | 5                     | 13           | 40                 | 33                 | 2                       | 12                 | -           | 7                | 1               | N/A           | 11                    | 136   |
| 1910 | 12           | 9                     | 12           | 41                 | 32                 | 2                       | 11                 | -           | 8                | -               | N/A           | 8                     | 145   |
| 1911 | 15           | 9                     | 12           | 35                 | 37                 | 2                       | 12                 | 1           | 9                | -               | N/A           | 11                    | 148   |
| 1912 | 20           | 8                     | 12           | 35                 | 31                 | 2                       | 10                 | 1           | 8                | -               | 5             | 18                    | 145   |
| 1913 | 9            | 8                     | 16           | 32                 | 26                 | 6                       | 9                  | 1           | 8                | -               | 6             | 14                    | 134   |
| 1914 | 15           | 9                     | 15           | 37                 | 20                 | 5                       | 6                  | -           | 13               | -               | 3             | 12                    | 135   |

As evidenced in Table 4, private educational institutions in the Caucasus were distributed unevenly at the time. Some of the areas (Tiflis Governorate, which had the maximum number of educational institutions, 57, in 1900) and Kutais Governorate (which had the maximum number of educational institutions, 41, in 1907), were clear leaders in private education in the region, and some were clear laggards (Kars Oblast and Dagestan Oblast) with an unstable private education sector.

## 5. Conclusion

The following conclusions were drawn from the insights gained from this study:

1. Private educational institutions in the Caucasus were divided into the following three categories: Category 1 – educational institutions with five grades and up (gymnasia and higher primary educational institutions); Category 2 – educational institutions with three-to-four grades (urban schools and four-grade progymnasia); Category 3 – educational institutions with one-to-two grades (primary schools).

2. To be able to compete with ministerial (public) educational institutions, private educational institutions had to continuously keep track of the demand for education in society, take account of new trends, and vouch for the quality of the educational process. Consequently, the **region's private education sector was** characterized by impermanence. Essentially, it acted as a litmus paper for a reading on what was desired by society in the Caucasus. The sector was undergoing continuous change, with the number of school grades increasing. The number of primary private educational institutions continuously declined in the region over the prerevolutionary period. In 1879, primary schools accounted for 93 % of all private educational institutions in the region, in 1907 – for 78 %, and in 1914 – for just 61 %.

3. In religious **composition, the student body across the region's private educational institutions** was dominated throughout the period under review by Orthodox Christians (the figure ranging from 57 to 74 %), followed by Armenian Gregorian Christians (18 to 35 %), with members of other faiths accounting for an insignificant portion of the region's student body.

## References

Belov, 2019 – *Belov, A.V.* (2019). U istokov sozdaniya sistemy narodnogo prosveshcheniya v Moskve v pravlenie Ekateriny II: chastnye i kazennye uchebnye zavedeniya [At the origins of the creation of the public education system in Moscow during the reign of Catherine II: private and state educational institutions]. *Vestnik slavyanskikh kul'tur*. 51: 25-35. [in Russian]

Cherkasov et al., 2020 – *Cherkasov, A.A., Koroleva, L.A., Bratanovskii, S.N.* (2020). The System of Public Education on the Territory of the Black Sea Province in 1896–1917. Part 1. *Vestnik of Saint Petersburg University. History*. 65 (3): 750–770.

Cherkasov et al., 2020a – *Cherkasov, A.A., Koroleva, L.A., Bratanovskii, S.N.* (2020). The System of Public Education on the Territory of the Black Sea Province in 1896–1917. Part 2. *Vestnik of Saint Petersburg University. History*. 65 (4): 1067–1084.

Kamynin, Khramtsov, 2019 – *Kamynin, V.D., Khramtsov, A.B.* (2019). Otchety inspektorov narodnykh uchilishch v dorevolyutsionnoi Sibiri (1900–1910-e gg.) [Reports of inspectors of public schools in pre-revolutionary Siberia (1900–1910s)]. *Voprosy istorii*. 3: 43-52. [in Russian]

Khutorova, Ronzhina, 2013 – *Khutorova, L.M., Ronzhina, Yu.N.* (2013). Iz istorii chastnykh uchebnykh zavedenii Kazani kontsa XIX – nachala XX vv. [From the history of private educational institutions in Kazan at the end of the 19th – beginning of the 20th centuries]. *Gasyrlar avazy – Ekho vekov*. 1-2: 229-238. [in Russian]

Mamadaliev et al., 2020 – *Mamadaliev, A.M., Karpukhin, D.V., Svechnikova, N.V., Médico, A.* (2020). The System of Public Education in Tiflis Governorate in the Period 1802–1917. Part 1. *European Journal of Contemporary Education*. 9(1): 235-247.

Mamadaliev et al., 2020a – *Mamadaliev, A.M., Karpukhin, D.V., Svechnikova, N.V., Médico, A.* (2020). The System of Public Education in Tiflis Governorate in the Period 1802–1917. Part 2. *Bylye Gody*. 56(2): 530-540.

Mamadaliev et al., 2020b – *Mamadaliev, A.M., Karpukhin, D.V., Svechnikova, N.V., Médico, A.* (2020). The System of Public Education in Tiflis Governorate in the Period 1802–1917. Part 3. *Bylye Gody*. 57(3): 1065-1084.

Mamadaliev et al., 2020c – *Mamadaliev, A.M., Karpukhin, D.V., Svechnikova, N.V., Médico, A.* (2020). The System of Public Education in Tiflis Governorate in the Period 1802–1917. Part 4. *Bylye Gody*. 58(4): 2409-2426.

Molchanova et al., 2019 – *Molchanova, V.S., Balanyuk, L.L., Vidishcheva, E.V., Potapova, I.I.* (2019). The Development of Primary Education on the Cossack Territories in 1803–1917 years (on the Example of the Kuban Region). Part 1. *Bylye Gody*. 53(3): 1049-1058.



Molchanova et al., 2019a – Molchanova, V.S., Balanyuk, L.L., Vidishcheva, E.V., Potapova, I.I. (2019). The Development of Primary Education on the Cossack Territories in 1803–1917 years (on the Example of the Kuban Region). Part 2. *Bylye Gody*. 54(4): 1524-1536.

Molchanova et al., 2020 – Molchanova, V.S., Balanyuk, L.L., Vidishcheva, E.V., Potapova, I.I. (2020). The Development of Primary Education on the Cossack Territories in 1803–1917 years (on the Example of the Kuban Region). Part 3. *Bylye Gody*. 55(1): 88-104.

Natolochnaya et al., 2020 – Natolochnaya, O.V., Zimovets, L.G., Allalyev, R.M., Svechnikov, V.A. (2020). The System of Public Education in Stavropol Governorate in the Period 1804–1917. Part 1. *European Journal of Contemporary Education*. 9(2): 473-480.

Natolochnaya et al., 2020a – Natolochnaya, O.V., Makarov, Y.N., Allalyev, R.M., Svechnikov, V.A. (2020). The System of Public Education in Stavropol Governorate in the Period 1804–1917. Part 2. *European Journal of Contemporary Education*. 9(3): 679-688.

Natolochnaya et al., 2020b – Natolochnaya, O.V., Allalyev, R.M., Svechnikov, V.A., Ivantsov, V.G. (2020). The System of Public Education in Stavropol Governorate in the Period 1804–1917. Part 3. *European Journal of Contemporary Education*. 9(4): 984-992.

Otchet, 1885 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1884 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1884]. Tiflis, 1885. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1886 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1885 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1885]. Tiflis, 1886. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1887 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1886 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1886]. Tiflis, 1887. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1890 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1889 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1889]. Tiflis, 1890. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1891 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1890 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1890]. Tiflis, 1891. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1892 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1891 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1891]. Tiflis, 1892. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1893 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1892 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1892]. Tiflis, 1893. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1894 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1893 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1893]. Tiflis, 1894. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1895 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1894 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1894]. Tiflis, 1895. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1896 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1895 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1895]. Tiflis, 1896. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1897 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1896 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1896]. Tiflis, 1897. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1899 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1898 g. [Report of the trustee of the Caucasian educational district on the state of educational institutions for 1898]. Tiflis, 1899. [in Russian]

Otchet, 1900 – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1899 g. [Report on the status of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district in 1899]. Tiflis, 1900. [in Russian]

[Otchet, 1901](#) – Otchet popechitelya Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii za 1900 g. [Report on the status of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district in 1900]. Tiflis, 1901. [in Russian]

[Otchet, 1905](#) – Otchet o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga za 1904 g. [Report on the state of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district for 1904]. Tiflis, 1905. [in Russian]

[Otchet, 1908](#) – Otchet o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga za 1907 g. [Report on the state of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district for 1907]. Tiflis, 1908. [in Russian]

[Otchet, 1910](#) – Otchet o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga za 1909 g. [Report on the state of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district for 1909]. Tiflis, 1910. [in Russian]

[Otchet, 1912](#) – Otchet o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga za 1911 g. [Report on the state of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district for 1911]. Tiflis, 1912. [in Russian]

[Otchet, 1914](#) – Otchet o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga za 1913 gg. [Report on the status of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district for 1913]. Tiflis, 1914. [in Russian]

[Otchet, 1915](#) – Otchet o sostoyanii uchebnykh zavedenii Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga za 1914 g. [Report on the state of educational institutions of the Caucasian educational district for 1914]. Tiflis, 1915. [in Russian]

[Pamyatnaya knizhka, 1879](#) – Pamyatnaya knizhka Kavkazskogo uchebnogo okruga na 1879 g. [Commemorative book of the Caucasian educational district for 1879 Tiflis]. Tiflis, 1879. [in Russian]

[Pavlova, 2014](#) – **Pavlova, O.K.** (2014). Istoriya razvitiya kommercheskogo obrazovaniya v Rossii vo vtoroi polovine XIX – nachale XX v. Politika gosudarstva i rol' chastnogo biznesa [The history of the development of commercial education in Russia in the second half of the XIX – early XX century. The state policy and role of private business]. *Rossii v global'nom mire*. 4(27): 209-220. [in Russian]

[Romanenchuk, 2011](#) – **Romanenchuk, K.V.** (2011). K voprosu ob issledovanii istorii chastnykh uchebnykh zavedenii v Rossii v XVIII – nachale XX veka [To the issue of the history of private educational institutions in Russia in the 18th – early 20th century]. *Izvestiya Yuzhnogo federal'nogo universiteta. Pedagogicheskie nauki*. 8: 75-82. [in Russian]

[Sergeeva, 2009](#) – **Sergeeva, S.V.** (2009). Inspektirovanie chastnykh uchebnykh zavedenii v Rossii (vtoraya chetvert' XIX veka) [The inspection of private educational institutions in Russia (second quarter of the 19th century)]. *Pedagogika*. 9: 80-92. [in Russian]

[Shevchenko et al., 2016](#) – **Shevchenko, N.A., Vidishcheva, E.V., Emelyanova, O.V.** (2016). The establishment of the system of public education in the Caucasus (1802-1917 years): The characteristic features. *Bylye Gody*. 40(2): 363-372.