

Settlement of the population in Kazakhstan: principles, features and prospective development

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Abstract

The economy of Kazakhstan has an undoubted regional orientation, which is typical for countries with a large territory and a high level of socio-economic disproportions between individual regions of the country. The lack of knowledge of the conditions, factors, indicators and methodological approaches to determining the reproduction and distribution of the population in the regions of Kazakhstan determined the relevance of developing a concept and a map of the actual placement of the population in the regions of Kazakhstan. The purpose of the study is to analyze and identify the trend of modern reproduction and resettlement of the population in the regions of Kazakhstan. The scientific novelty of the study lies in the development of a system of conditions and indicators for the reproduction and resettlement of the population, which can serve as a methodological basis for determining the level and potential prerequisites for the formation of rational population resettlement in the regions of the country. As a result of the study, trends in modern reproduction and resettlement of the population in the regions of Kazakhstan were identified, indicators of population distribution were analyzed regarding regional differences in the structure of the life support of the population, the ratio of the rural and urban population. Based on the study of the problem, a methodology for analyzing the system of population settlement was developed. The authors made a classification of the system of population settlement according to characteristics and analyzed population reproduction (trends in the demographic process and internal migration).

Keywords: Economics, Regional Economy, Population, Reproduction, Migration, Resettlement

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Қазақстандағы халықты қоныстандыру: принциптері, ерекшеліктері және перспективалық дамуы

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Түйін

Қазақстан Республикасының экономикасы өңірлік бағытқа сөзсіз ие, бұл аумағы үлкен және елдің жекелеген өңірлері арасындағы әлеуметтік-экономикалық сәйкессіздіктердің деңгейі жоғары елдерге тән. Халықтың иррационалды орналасуы, өңірлік демография, халықтың миграциясы, жекелеген өңірлердегі халық тығыздығының төмендігі түріндегі диспропорция, елді мекендер арасындағы үлкен қашықтықтар, кеңістіктің жоғары бірікпеушілігі мәселелері экономиканың әлеуметтік және экономикалық даму барысын қиындатады. Қазақстан өңірлері бойынша халықтың өсімін молайту мен орналастыруды айқындауға қойылатын шарттардың, факторлардың, көрсеткіштердің және әдіснамалық тәсілдердің әлсіз зерделенуі Қазақстан өңірлері бойынша халықтың нақты орналасу тұжырымдамасы мен картасын әзірлеудің өзектілігін айқындады. Зерттеудің мақсаты - Қазақстан өңірлері бойынша халықтың қазіргі заманғы өсімін молайту және қоныстандыру үрдісін анықтау және талдау. Зерттеудің ғылыми жаңалығы авторлардың ел өңірлері бойынша халықтың ұтымды қоныстануын қалыптастырудың деңгейі мен әлеуетті алғышарттарын айқындау үшін әдістемелік негіз бола алатын халықтың көбеюі мен қоныстану көрсеткіштерінің шарттары мен көрсеткіштерін әзірлеуден тұрады. Зерттеу нәтижесінде Қазақстан өңірлері бойынша халықтың қазіргі заманғы өсімін молайту және қоныстандыру үрдістері анықталды, халықтың тыныс-тіршілігін қамтамасыз ету құрылымындағы өңірлік айырмашылықтарға, ауыл және қала халқының арақатынасына қатысты халықты орналастыру индикаторлары талданды. Мәселені зерттеу негізінде халықты қоныстандыру жүйесін талдау әдістемесі әзірленді. Авторлар белгілі критерийлер бойынша халықты қоныстандыру жүйесін жіктеу жасады, халықтың өсімін молайтуға талдау жүргізді (демографиялық процесс және ішкі миграция үрдістері).

Түйінді сөздер: экономика, аймақтық экономика, халық, ұдайы өндіріс, көші-қон, қоныс аудару

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Расселение населения в Казахстане: принципы, особенности и перспективное развитие

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Аннотация

Экономика Республики Казахстан имеет несомненную региональную направленность, что характерно для стран с большой территорией и высоким уровнем социально-экономических диспропорций между отдельными регионами страны. Проблемы нерационального размещения населения, региональной демографии, миграции населения, диспропорции в виде низкой плотности населения в отдельных регионах, большие расстояния между населенными пунктами, высокая разобщенность пространства затрудняют ход экономического и социального развития экономики. Слабая изученность условий, факторов, показателей и методологических подходов к определению воспроизводства и размещения населения по регионам Казахстана определили актуальность разработки концепции и карты действительного размещения населения по регионам Казахстана. Цель исследования – проведение анализа и выявление тенденций современного воспроизводства и расселения населения по регионам Казахстана. Научная новизна исследования состоит в разработке авторами системы условий и показателей воспроизводства и расселения населения, которая может послужить методической базой для определения уровня и потенциальных предпосылок формирования рационального расселения населения по регионам страны. В результате исследования были выявлены тенденции современного воспроизводства и расселения населения по регионам Казахстана, проанализированы индикаторы размещения населения, касающиеся региональных различий в структуре жизнеобеспечения населения, соотношения сельского и городского населения. На основе изучения проблемы была разработана методология анализа системы расселения населения. Авторами сделана классификация системы расселения населения по признакам, проведен анализ воспроизводства населения (тенденций демографического процесса и внутренней миграции).

Ключевые слова: экономика, экономика региона, население, воспроизводство, миграция, расселение

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Introduction

The evolutionary development of society entails the transformation of economic, political and spiritual phenomena that characterize the general situation in the country at each historical stage. Of course, an active element of the development of society is the economy, as a material basis that determines the country's strategy.

The course taken for the balanced development of the regions specifically aims at the development of sufficiently adequate mechanisms for managing the economy. In this context, the revision of approaches to the placement of productive forces and the population becomes relevant. In particular, this refers to the revision of the concepts of "population settlement", "population placement", "population settlement system" and others. This is necessary for the correct representation of the process of population distribution in the territory and its consequences, which will allow developing principles that can guide regional development planning.

It is quite natural that each branch of science has its own idea of the essence of population settlement, but in fact, they are identical. The entire problem, which is being studied, should be considered as a system of population resettlement (and not separately settlement and distribution of the population), taking into account the next prerequisites: suitability of the territory for habitation; availability of places of application of labor; the possibility of convenient movement.

In this regard, there has been developed the author's vision of the settlement system as the placement of the population in a certain territory, resulting in the formation of a network of settlements (cities and villages) in conjunction with the migration process, as a way to implement inter-territorial relations. Thus, in economics it is legitimate to speak of a system of settlement, representing in the aggregate the process of distribution and redistribution of the population over the territory and the formation of a network of settlements [1, p.315].

The process of placing the population is long-term, multifaceted in forming settlements and managing them. In this regard, it is legitimate to present various approaches to the impact of population settlement on many aspects of society: economic approaches involve studying the dependence of settlement on the mode of production; demography studies the processes of distribution and redistribution of the population across the territory in relation to the birth rate, mortality, and migration of the population. In this regard, the distribution of the population acts as a factor in the formation of the gender and age structure of the region; sociology explores the

settlement of the population as a spatial form of organization of society; geography considers the settlement of the population in interaction with the natural environment. At the same time, the population is studied as an important element of the productive forces, the development of which leads to the formation of a network of settlements with certain economic and geographical parameters; the historical approach allows tracing the history of human development of a certain territory; ethnogeography studies the influence of population settlement on the formation and interpenetration of the spiritual and material life of people.

Before formulating the goals of the settlement system formation, it is necessary to clarify factors affecting the nature of the settlement, in particular: socio-economic (the level of economic development of the regions, the state of the social structure of the economy of the regions); natural-climatic and demographic (regional features, the level of natural reproduction of the population, the intensity of migration links).

In our opinion the formation of a population settlement system has next key goals: economic (creating conditions for the rational allocation and development of productive forces); social (aimed at creating urban planning prerequisites for the comprehensive development of the living conditions of society); ecological (search for ways of human survival as a biological species and a social individual).

Literature review

The general theoretical premise for understanding the essence of population settlement is the position that any placement of the population, regardless of period, is dictated by economic need. In this regard, it is legitimate to review the opinions of researchers in this area of regional economics.

In the context of this theoretical message, the Bulgarian researcher M.S. Devedzhiev expresses his opinion. In particular, he non-standardly presents the settlement of the population as the spatial basis of the vital activity of society, as an expression of the territorial organization of the main productive force - man. Further, the scientist optimistically asserts that the correct settlement of the population fully satisfies human needs [2].

In the conditions of a planned economy, Kazakh scientists N.F. Golikov and B.Y. Dvoskin, exploring the problems of the allocation of productive forces in general, focused on the settlement of the population. At the same time, they presented it as the placement of the population on the territory based on the current laws of the social formation, taking into account

the level of development of productive forces, the distribution of means of production and natural conditions, planning and development of settlements on this territory [3]. In modern conditions, such a formulation is inadequately perceived, since multi-level provisions are given by a simple enumeration (laws of society, means of production, natural conditions, settlements development), although they have different functions that should be clarified and systematized.

The methodology of L.V. Fuchs is based on the principles of integrity and indivisibility of the settlement system regardless of the territorial boundaries of cities, villages, different parts of the country, and border states [4]. At the same time, Fuchs, as a geographer, focuses his study on the characteristics of territories of different levels in the context of settlement. Of course, the author's ideas are of particular interest for our research in terms of taking into account the situation of border zones during the settlement of the population. Almost the same view is held by the scientist V.G. Davidovich but from the point of view of planning and development of territories. He believes that the settlement of the population is the placement of a network of cities and villages that perform certain economic functions in relation to places of production, transport lines, the natural environment, and in relation to each other, as well as the distribution of the population within their territory. Thus, the population settlement is the placement of habitations and the location of the population inside them [5]. From this interpretation of the author, it can be seen that the process of settling the territory is primary, and then follows the distribution of the population. This approach deserves attention from the point of view that there is a well-equipped territory where people can enter to live.

From our point of view, the definition of the Russian scientist S.A. Kovalev is correct: after the necessary industrial infrastructure is created, the settlement of the territory by the population will subsequently be organized. In the same context, Zh.T. Abdreeva [6] focuses on the impact on the settlement of the population of the geopolitical and geo-economic situation, transboundary rivers and roads, the capacity of water resources on the economic and demographic situation.

A lot of works are devoted to the connection between population settlement and internal migration [7], the influence of uneven territorial development on migration activity and the formation of the settlement system [8, 9]. Some scientists note the role of the rural population migration to cities [10], as well as urbanization as well as issues of urbanization in the formation

of settlement [11, 12]. In works [13,14] questions of resettlement are studied from the point of view of demographic development.

In Kazakhstan, theoretical studies on the population settlement were carried out by such scientists as Golikov N.F., Dvoskin B.Ya., Spector M.D., Iskakov U.M. [15], Ismagulova B.M. [16], Mazaev A.G. [17], Syrlybaev M.K. [18] and others.

The literature review allowed formulating the main credo of the study: when studying population settlement trends, it is necessary to analyze the features of regional development and identify patterns of local historical types of population placements and their organization on the territory of Kazakhstan. In this regard, the settlement of the population and the development of the settlement system should be carried out taking into account the prospects for the economic development of habitations types.

Methodology

The most important condition for building a population settlement system should be the implementation of the following requirements:

- formation of favorable conditions for living, work and recreation in all settlements;
- providing the population with the opportunity to choose a place of work, receive education, and realize cultural needs;
- overcoming differentiation in living conditions in large and small towns and rural areas [1, p. 31].

Compliance with these social requirements in the planning and management of the regional economy is particularly difficult, sometimes leading to a deadlock that has been going on for decades.

The following principles are intended to contribute to the implementation of social, economic and environmental tasks for a comfortable territorial organization of the population's life [19].

- The principle of conformity is based on the need to form a settlement that adequately reflects the characteristics and historically established organization of production and social conditions.

- The principle of equilibrium is due to the need to create equal conditions for the development of functional structures of various types of settlement and settlement systems formed during their complex development.

- The principle of forming groups of interconnected localities, important for both urban and rural settlement, has a qualitatively new direction associated with the equalization of living conditions in the city and village, different in size settlements.

– The principle of diversity is based on the heterogeneity of natural conditions, and raw materials, on which the spatial forms of placement and connectivity of the elements of settlement depend, the intensity and regularity of communication links between them, the possibility of functional limitations in the formation of systems of localities.

The problem of population settlement should be decomposed into factors, based on which

it is possible to present a classification of the settlement system, taking into account the nature of the settlement of the territory, the peculiarities of the formation of the economic complex: the geographical location of the region; features of natural and climatic conditions and specialization of the region; genesis of the region's development.

The methodology of the population settlement analysis assumes a brief description of the types of the placement system according to the attributes (Figure 1):

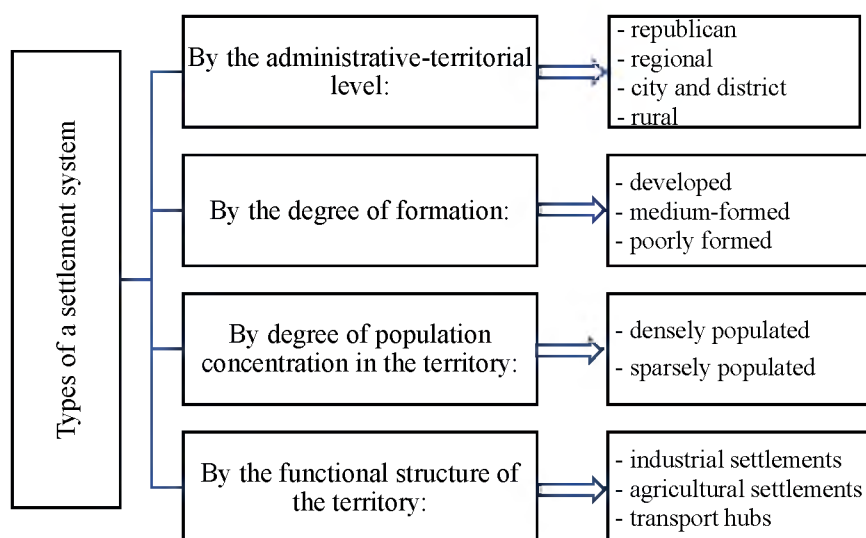


Figure 1 - Classification of the population settlement system according to characteristics

Note - Compiled according to the source [20]

It is justifiably to analyze the population settlement in the context of features, which determined the types of the population settlement system [21]. Currently, there are significant differences in the above-mentioned features in localities of different sizes. Not every urban locality, and even more rural, will be able to meet the needs of its residents in choosing a place of work, study, and use of free time. In this regard, the mobility of the population to places of work is increasing, and, accordingly, both internal and external migration of the population takes place.

Such distortions in social development indicate that social standards do not correspond to the real-life security of the population of the regions. Existing social standards contributed to the manifestation of differences in the material basis of the living standards of urban and rural populations, and consequently, the development of population migration [1, p. 30].

Thus, the analysis of population distribution is based on indicators concerning regional

differences in the structure of the population's livelihood, the ratio of the rural and urban population, and in the latter, it is necessary to single out the share of the population living in the regional and district centers.

Results

The analysis of the population settlement according to the proposed methodology allowed us to obtain concrete results.

According to the data for 2020, the population growth in Kazakhstan amounted to 236,212 people. This was due to a natural increase of 269,182 people, but due to the outflow of the population, the number decreased by 32,970 people (Table 1). Currently, in Kazakhstan, the mechanical departure of the population dominates the arrival. So, in the period from January to June 2020, 346556 people arrived in Kazakhstan, and 350473 people left, respectively, the population as a whole decreased by 3917 people. Internal migration in Kazakhstan is characterized by

the influx of population to cities of republican significance and their outflow from the regions of Kazakhstan. The current migration trends

require the study of the reasons for such migration behavior of the population and the development of measures to reduce the outflow of population from the regions of Kazakhstan.

Table 1 - Classification of regions according to the factors of population change, 2020

Factors of population change	Region	2020, population			The growth rate for 2016-2020, %		
		Natural growth	Migration	Population increase	Natural growth	Migration	Population increase
Growth due to natural increase and migration	Almaty city	21 085	39350	60436	124.5	142.4	100.8
	Nur-Sultan city	23 390	24863	48255	48.2	32.6	98.3
	Shymkent city	24 971	11343	36314	60.6	32.9	111.2
	Mangistau	17 529	3 246	20 775	129.4	91.8	103.1
Growth due to natural increase with migration outflow	Atyrau	13 274	-1 444	11 830	90.8	-338.8	102.3
	Aktobe	14 329	-1 647	12 682	116.7	50.7	101.5
	West-Kazakhstan	7 023	-3 079	4 519	101.3	85.5	94.3
	Kyzylorda	15792	-2 554	4472	136.8	71.0	136.8
	Turkestan	48 378	-4 235	11057	109.4	52.8	413.5
	Zhambyl	20 032	-19 773	28705	199.5	148.6	96.2
	Almaty	38 218	-15 475	22248	232.0	97.9	62.2
Decline due to migration outflow	Karaganda	7 945	-8 889	-944	219.9	71.5	76.8
	Pavlodar	3 067	-4 221	-1 157	162.8	162.8	-27.3
	Akmola	3 986	-5 155	-1 159	99.0	33.9	-77.1
	Kostanay	1 075	-5 072	-3 999	116.8	519.0	-283.7
	North-Kazakhstan	633	-4 388	-5 020	25.9	60.6	66.5
	East-Kazakhstan	6 029	-11 829	-5 800	89.9	78.7	70.5

Note - Calculated and compiled according to the source [22]

The analysis of population movement indicators made it possible to identify groups of regions by the nature of population change in them:

– The cities of Almaty, Nur-Sultan, Shymkent, and Mangistau region have population growth due to natural and mechanical growth.

– Atyrau, Aktobe, West-Kazakhstan, Kyzylorda, Turkestan, Zhambyl, and Almaty regions have population growth due to natural growth. In all regions of this group, there is a migration outflow with a tendency to increase and a slowdown in population growth. In Turkestan, Zhambyl, and Almaty regions, the highest migration outflow is over 10,000 people.

– Karaganda, Pavlodar, Akmola, Kostanay, North Kazakhstan, and East Kazakhstan regions note a decrease in population due to migration outflow. In all regions of this group over the past five years, there has been a steady trend toward a decrease in the number due to the annual growth of the negative balance of migration (except for the Karaganda, Pavlodar, Akmola regions) and a decrease in the rate of natural growth.

Thus, migration processes in the regions are mainly expressed in the population outflow. Figure 2 presents the trends of internal migration in the context of urban-rural areas in the regions of Kazakhstan.

The analysis made it possible to classify the regions according to the trends of internal migration:

Migration influx of population from other regions. The cities of Almaty, Nur-Sultan, and Shymkent are characterized by a significant influx of population.

Migration influx with a trend towards deurbanization. Mangystau region has a minor migration influx.

Population decline, urbanization growth, the outflow of population from rural areas. Pavlodar, Aktobe, Kostanay, North-Kazakhstan, and Turkestan regions are characterized by a decrease in population with varying degrees of intensity and have an increase in urbanization combined with an outflow of population from rural areas. The population is decreasing from rural areas: some migrate to the cities of these regions, some to cities of republican significance.

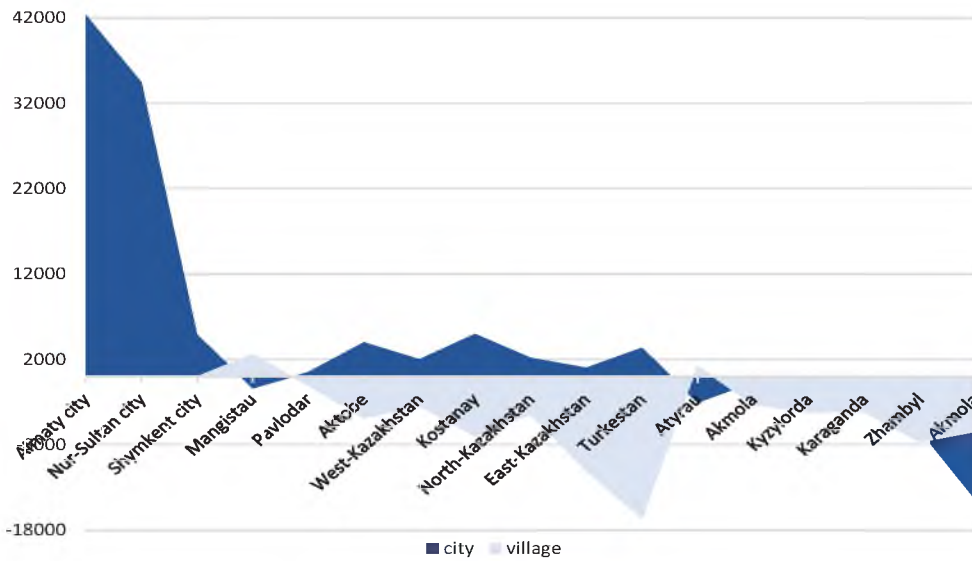


Figure 2 - Regions according to the trend of internal migration in 2020, population

Note - Compiled according to the source [22]

Migration outflow with a trend towards deurbanization - Atyrau region.

Migration outflow from all types of localities. Akmola, Kyzylorda, Karaganda, Zhambyl, and Almaty regions are characterized by a high migration outflow. In rural areas, the intensity of population outflow is higher than in urban areas.

The key position in the development of the migration process is the state and level of

income of the population, which determine the move to the best places of residence. Therefore, solving the problem of equalizing the standard of living of the population is the basis for ensuring the sustainability of regional development. In this regard, an attempt is made to present the ratio of the level of income of the population and migration

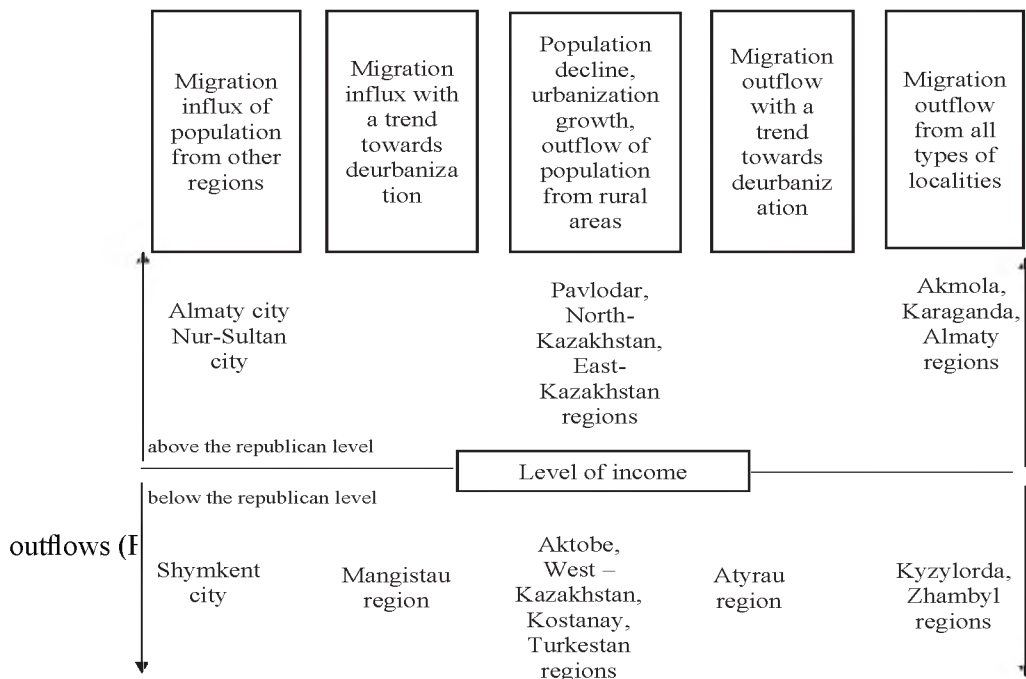


Figure 3 - The ratio of the level of income of the population and migration outflows, 2015-2020

Note - Calculated and compiled according to the source [22]

The indicator of the level of population income is supplemented by the degree of social attractiveness: an assessment of the provision of regions with preschool, secondary, vocational and higher education, and health services.

Comparison of the level of social attractiveness of the regions with their migration trends allows stating that:

1. One of the reasons for the positive migration of the cities of Almaty and Nur-Sultan is the high level of social attractiveness. In the cities of Nur-Sultan, Almaty, a high influx of population is probably associated with a high level of social attractiveness and the possibility of obtaining relatively high incomes. The current migration trends lead to an increase in the burden on the housing market, as a result, high growth rates of the total area of the housing stock become insufficient;

2. The population migrates to Shymkent city and the Mangistau region despite the insufficient and low social attractiveness. The city of Shymkent and the Mangistau region are characterized by an excess of labor, a shortage of housing (except for the Mangistau region), relatively low incomes, and insufficient social attractiveness. However, the population continues to arrive in these regions. Probably, there are other reasons for such migratory behavior of the population;

3. From Pavlodar, East-Kazakhstan, Aktobe, Kostanay, North-Kazakhstan, and Karaganda regions, the population is decreasing, and this is despite relatively high level of social attractiveness in the regions. In the Pavlodar region, a slight outflow of the population was recorded. Perhaps one of the reasons for this migratory behavior is problems with housing. Aktobe region also has a slight outflow of population. The reason for this migratory behavior is a surplus in the labor market, that is, low chances for employment and low incomes.

The North Kazakhstan region has a relatively low population outflow. The main reasons for the churn are low chances for employment and problems with housing.

Kostanay region also has an outflow of population. There are problems with employment, housing, and low incomes.

Atyrau and West Kazakhstan oblasts have a slight outflow of population, a surplus in the labor market, low incomes, and a low level of social services.

In the Karaganda region, a slight outflow of the population was recorded. As in the Pavlodar region, perhaps one of the reasons for such migratory behavior is problems with housing;

4. Negative migration with an insufficient and low level of social attractiveness is observed in other regions. Perhaps this is one of the reasons for the population decreasing in these regions. Akmola region has an average outflow of population and is characterized by weak growth rates of housing stock and weak social attractiveness. Kyzylorda region also has an average outflow of population and is characterized by a labor surplus, low incomes, and weak social attractiveness. The Almaty region has a significant outflow of population, this may be due to a labor surplus and problems in the provision of social services. The East-Kazakhstan region is characterized by a significant outflow of population, this may be due to labor shortage and housing problems. Zhambyl region is also characterized by a significant outflow of population, this may be due to labor surplus, low incomes, and low social attractiveness. According to all analyzed factors, the Turkestan region has problems with a negative impact on the migration behavior of the population: labor surplus, housing shortage, low incomes, and low social attractiveness.

The methodology of analysis and research of population placement includes different methods and approaches that allow presenting the reproduction and settlement of the population from several angles. Therefore, each approach should be tested when calculating indicators. This refers to the methods of comparisons horizontally (years, age groups) and vertically (cities, districts, rural settlements) cross-analysis, typology methods by feature groups.

The study of population distribution should begin with an analysis of population density by regions of the country (Table 2).

According to historical, climatic and economic conditions, Almaty (2806.5 people/sq. km.), Nur-Sultan (1425.5 people/sq. km.), Shymkent (892.7 people/sq. km.) are densely populated. Population density is higher than the republican level in Turkestan (17.4 people/sq.km), Almaty (9.2 people/sq. km), Zhambyl (7.8 people/sq. km) regions. The republican level of population density is lower in Pavlodar (6.0 people/sq. km) and North-Kazakhstan (5.6 people/sq. km) regions. Whereas Atyrau (5.4 people/sq.km), Akmola (5.0 people/sq. km), Kostanay (4.4 people/sq.km), West-Kazakhstan (4.3 people/sq.km), Mangystau (4.2 people/sq. km), Kyzylorda (3.6 people/sq. km) became sparsely populated regions, Karaganda (3.2 people/sq. km) and Aktobe (2.9 people /sq. km) regions.

Table 2 - Density of the population living in the territory of Kazakhstan, people / sq. km

Region of Kazakhstan	Population density person/sq. km		Density change is related to:
	2016	2020	
The Republic of Kazakhstan	6.5	6.8	population growth
Akmola	5.1	5.0	migratory outflow
Aktobe	2.8	2.9	natural growth, an influx
Almaty	8.7	9.2	migratory influx
Atyrau	5.0	5.4	migratory influx
West-Kazakhstan	4.2	4.3	
Zhambyl	7.7	7.8	
Karaganda	3.2	3.2	
Kostanay	4.5	4.4	migratory outflow
Kyzylorda	3.4	3.6	
Mangistau	3.8	4.2	
Pavlodar	6.1	6.0	
North-Kazakhstan	5.8	5.6	
Turkestan	24.2	17.4	division of the region and Shymkent city
East-Kazakhstan	4.9	4.8	
Nur-Sultan city	1246.5	1425.6	migratory influx
Almaty city	2432.5	2806.5	migratory influx
Shymkent city	784.4	892.7	the formation of an agglomeration

Note - Compiled according to the source [22]

Based on the prevailing trends in population density, it is possible to determine the contours of the problems and at the same time the development opportunities of the regions.

In general, the increase in population density in the republic is due to the natural increase in population (from 6.5 people/ sq. km in 2016 to 6.8 people/sq. km in 2020), which took place in all regions [2].

Super densely populated regions are characterized by favorable conditions for economic development, a certain provision of jobs, and the development of the social sphere. Accordingly, the high population density in these regions is primarily due to the intensive migration influx, which affects the demographic situation and the increase in the number of young people.

The migration influx of the population in recent years has affected the density in Almaty and Atyrau regions, which will affect their social development in the future.

Analysis of urban and rural populations by gender and age groups

The picture of population density is a prerequisite for the analysis of the total population, urban and rural population by age groups for 2015 and 2020 by region of Kazakhstan.

The change in the total population by gender and age groups in dynamics for 2015 and 2020 allowed us to identify the following points:

- The proportion of the population aged 15-64 years indicates the capabilities of the able-bodied population among men and women. In 2015, a high proportion of men aged 15-64 years was observed in Almaty (71.0%), Kostanay (71.0%), North-Kazakhstan (70.6%), Pavlodar (70.2%), East-Kazakhstan (69.5%) and West-Kazakhstan (68.9%) regions (Table 3).

Except Nur-Sultan city and the West-Kazakhstan region, the share of the older generation in the total population is very significant in the above-mentioned regions. This situation indirectly testifies to the sufficient life expectancy of the older generation and their use in the labor activity of the regions.

In 2020, the levels of indicators for the proportion of men aged 15-64 years in these areas decreased by 2-3%, respectively, the proportion of the older generation (65+ years) also increased by 2-3%. The share of women aged 15-64 also indicates their active participation in economic activity. High quantitative values of this indicator in 2015 took place in Almaty (72.2%), Nur-Sultan (70.8%), Kostanay (69.2%), Pavlodar (68.7%), Aktobe (68.4%), Karaganda (67.9%), East-Kazakhstan (67.8%), West-Kazakhstan (67.6%) regions. In 2020, the situation in the proportion of women aged 15-64 years has changed significantly, downward (Table 4).

Table 3 - Change in the total population by age groups in the regions of Kazakhstan in 2015, %

Regions of Kazakhstan	Total			Men			Women		
	0-14 years old	15-64 years old	65+ years old	0-14 years old	15-64 years old	65+ years old	0-14 years old	15-64 years old	65+ years old
The Republic of Kazakhstan	26.6	66.6	6.8	28.3	66.7	5,0	25,0	66,5	8,5
Akmola	22.8	68.5	8.7	24.2	69.5	6.3	21.5	67.5	11.0
Aktobe	25.9	68.3	5.8	27.7	68.1	4.2	24.2	68.4	7.4
Almaty	29.4	65.3	6.3	29.6	65.4	5.0	27.3	65.3	7.4
Atyrau	31.0	64.3	4.7	32.4	64.2	3.4	29.6	64.3	6.1
West Kazakhstan	24.0	68.3	7.7	25.6	68.4	5.5	22.4	67.6	10.0
Zhambyl	31.8	62.6	5.6	31.5	64.4	4.1	30.3	62.7	7.0
Karaganda	22.4	68.9	9.0	24.3	69.4	6.3	20.7	67.9	11.4
Kostanay	19.7	70.3	10.0	21.8	71.0	7.2	18.2	69.2	12.6
Kyzylorda	31.8	63.5	4.7	32.7	63.6	3.7	31.0	63.5	5.5
Mangistau	32.7	63.4	3.9	34.0	63.2	2.8	31.5	63.9	4.6
Pavlodar	21.3	69.4	9,3	23.3	70.2	6.5	19.6	68.7	11.7
North Kazakhstan	20.2	69.0	10.7	21.9	70.6	7.5	18.8	67.5	13.7
Turkestan	34.2	61.0	4.2	36.0	60.8	3.2	33.7	61.2	5.1
East Kazakhstan	21.4	68.8	9.8	23.0	69.9	7.1	19.9	67.8	12.3
Nur-Sultan city	25.6	70.3	4.1	27.2	69.7	3.1	24.0	70.8	5.2
Almaty city	20.6	71.7	7.7	23.3	71.0	5.7	18.4	72.2	9.4

Note - Calculated and compiled according to the source [22]

Table 4 - Change in the total population by age groups in the regions of Kazakhstan in 2020, %

Regions of Kazakhstan	Total			Men			Women		
	0-14 years old	15-64 years old	65+ years old	0-14 years old	15-64 years old	65+ years old	0-14 years old	15-64 years old	65+ years old
The Republic of Kazakhstan	28.8	63.5	7.7	30.6	63.7	5.7	27.2	63.2	5.6
Akmola	24.0	66.0	10.0	25.4	67.5	7.1	22.6	64.7	12.7
Aktobe	29.1	64.3	6.8	31.0	64.0	5.0	27.4	64.2	8.4
Almaty	31.5	61.3	7.2	36.7	61.6	5.7	30.4	61.1	8.5
Atyrau	33.8	60.9	5.3	35.3	60.9	3.8	32.4	60.9	6.7
West Kazakhstan	26.5	64.9	8.6	28.3	65.6	6.1	24.8	64.2	11.0
Zhambyl	33.7	59.7	6.6	35.2	59.9	4.9	32.3	59.5	8.2
Karaganda	23.9	65.8	10.3	25.8	67.0	7.2	22.2	64.7	13.1
Kostanay	20.2	68.3	11.5	2.9	69.7	8.4	18.8	66.9	14.3
Kyzylorda	33.6	60.9	5.5	33.8	61.1	4.1	32.7	60.6	6.7
Mangistau	35.5	59.9	4.6	36.8	59.7	3.5	34.2	60.2	5.6
Pavlodar	23.0	66.5	10.5	24.9	67.6	7.5	21.2	65.4	13.4
North Kazakhstan	20.9	66.4	12.7	22.5	68.5	9.0	19.4	64.6	16.0
Turkestan	37.7	57.5	4.8	38.2	58.0	3.8	30.2	57.0	5.8
East Kazakhstan	23.1	65.3	11.6	24.9	66.6	8.5	21.4	64.1	14.5
Nur-Sultan city	29.9	65.1	5.0	32.0	64.3	3.7	28.0	65.9	6.1
Almaty city	23.1	68.6	8.3	21.1	67.7	6.2	20.6	69.4	10.0
Shymkent city	33.7	61.4	4.9	36.0	60.3	3.7	31.6	62.4	6.0

Note - Calculated and compiled according to the source [22]

The participation of women aged 15-64 years in economic activity in the whole country decreased from 66.5% to 63.2%. In almost all regions, the proportion of women aged 15-64 years decreased by 3-4%, in Almaty by 10%, here the proportion of children increased by 50%.

This decrease has affected the increase in the number of older female population. In particular, the proportion of women aged 65+ was high in Akmola (12.7%), Karaganda (13.1%), Pavlodar (13.4%), Kostanay (14.3%), and East-Kazakhstan (14.5%) regions (Table 5).

Table 5 - Territorial distribution of cities and towns in Kazakhstan in 2020

Regions of Kazakhstan	Territory, thousand square meters km.	Districts	Cities			Settlements		The density of rural settlements by region
			total	regional significance	district significance	townships	village	
The Republic of Kazakhstan	2724.9	183	88	37	48	30	6341	2.33
Akmola	146.1	17	10	2	8	5	590	4.04
Aktobe	300.6	14	8	1	7	-	316	1.05
Almaty	223.6	17	10	3	7	-	732	3.27
Atyrau	118.6	7	2	1	1	-	153	1.29
West Kazakhstan	151.3	12	2	1	1	3	435	2.88
Zhambyl	144.3	10	4	1	3	-	370	2.56
Karaganda	428.0	11	11	9	2	10	421	0.98
Kostanay	196.0	16	6	4	2	3	520	2.65
Kyzylorda	226.0	7	4	2	2	2	2769	1.03
Mangistau	165.6	5	3	2	1	-	58	0.35
Pavlodar	124.8	10	3	3	-	4	352	2.22
North Kazakhstan	98.0	13	5	1	4	-	635	6.48
Turkestan	116.1	13	7	3	4	-	836	7.20
East Kazakhstan	283.2	15	10	4	6	3	691	2.44
Nur-Sultan city	0.8	4	1	-	-	-	-	-
Almaty city	0.7	8	1	-	-	-	-	-
Shymkent city	1.2	4	1	-	-	-	-	-

Note - Calculated and compiled according to the source [23]

Thus, the representation of the change in the total population by gender and age for 2015 and 2020 is the demographic basis for drawing up a population settlement map by regions of Kazakhstan.

In the settlement system, the population is divided into urban and rural. As can be seen from Table 5, 88 cities operate on the territory of the country, 3 of them are of republican significance, 37 are regional and 48 are district. In general, 57.3% of the total population live in cities.

In the reproduction and distribution of the population of Kazakhstan, some main trends can be distinguished:

1. One of the main features of the distribution of productive forces in Kazakhstan is the uneven distribution of the population and production, which is reflected in the significant regional unevenness of the population of the

territory. To date, trends have finally been determined, the place and role of regions and regions in the general direction of the country's demographic development have been designated. Differences in population dynamics in the regions of Kazakhstan lead to increased imbalances in the territorial distribution of the population. This trend is typical for many countries.

2. The transformation of the age structure of the Kazakhstan population in the period after the 2009 population census is manifested in a certain reduction in the proportion of the population of working age while increasing the proportion of the population older and especially younger than working age. The increase in the proportion of older people in the age structure of the population of Kazakhstan indicates the initial stage of demographic aging. At the same time, as experts of the United Nations Population Fund in Kazakh-

stan note, in half of the country's regions, the 7% threshold characteristic of an aging nation has already been significantly overcome. Therefore, in the northeast of the country and part of central Kazakhstan, the situation is similar to the countries of Europe.

3. Among common features of population development characteristic of the world countries, it is possible to include the creation of a fundamentally new public health care system, and the growth of educational and living standards of the population, which would lead to a rapid decrease in morbidity and mortality.

4. The age structure of the population of Kazakhstan differs by region and city. In particular, the proportion of people of working age in urban population is significantly higher. If they are not provided with jobs, then the unemployment rate in cities will grow.

5. There is a slowdown in the growth rate of urban and rural population, as well as a reduction in the share of villagers in the total population of the republic. This situation leads to the fact that the urban population is growing both due to natural and migration growth, while the rural population is growing due to the excess the number of births over the number of deaths. The number of rural populations similar to the urban population is decreasing everywhere in the republic.

6. In Kazakhstan, a special place is occupied by environmental and socio-economic issues related to the violation of natural and ecological balance and environmental disasters, the rise in the level of the Caspian Sea, desertification of the Aral Sea zone, which will make their adjustments when developing a Population distribution map.

Conclusion

The analysis of population distribution is based on the indicators concerning regional differences in the structure of life support of the population, the ratio of the rural and urban population, and the proportion of the population living in regional and district centers highlighted. The following conclusions are made:

- the higher is the share of the population living in the regional and district centers in the region, the higher, all other things being equal, is the qualitative level of provision for the basic living needs of the population, which affects the social stability of the region;

- if a region in which both rural and urban populations live worse than in a neighboring region, then it is possible to assert the real motives for the resettlement of the population or to make significant changes in the industry and industrial structure of the territory;

- the share of the urban population localized in the regional center is the simplest indicator that corrects the development of regional infrastructure in the direction of improving its qualitative characteristics.

In the process of analysis, the regions were classified according to the trends of internal migration:

1. The cities of Almaty, Nursultan, and Shymkent are characterized by a significant influx of population from other regions.

2. Mangystau region has a slight migration influx with a tendency to deurbanization.

3. Pavlodar, Aktobe, Kostanay, North Kazakhstan, Turkestan regions are characterized by a decrease in population with varying degrees of intensity and have an increase in urbanization combined with an outflow of population from rural areas. The population is decreasing from rural areas: - some of them migrate to the cities of these regions, - some to cities of republican significance.

4. Atyrau region has a migration outflow with a tendency to deurbanization.

5. Akmola, Kyzylorda, Karaganda, Zhambyl, and Almaty regions are characterized by a high migration outflow from all types of terrain. In rural areas, the intensity of population outflow is higher than in urban areas.

The analysis of population movement indicators made it possible to identify groups of regions by the nature of the population change in them:

1. The cities of Almaty, Nursultan, Shymkent, and Mangystau region have population growth due to natural and mechanical growth.

2. Atyrau, Aktobe, West Kazakhstan, Kyzylorda, Turkestan, Zhambyl, and Almaty regions have population growth due to natural growth. In all regions of this group, there is a migration outflow with a tendency to increase and a slowdown in population growth. In Turkestan, Zhambyl, and Almaty regions, the highest migration outflow is over 10,000 people.

3. Karaganda, Pavlodar, Akmola, Kostanay, North Kazakhstan, and East Kazakhstan regions have a decrease in population due to migration outflow. In all regions of this group over the past five years, there has been a steady trend toward a decrease in the number due to the annual growth of the negative balance of migration (except for the Karaganda, Pavlodar, Akmola regions) and a decrease in the rate of natural growth.

As a result of the typology carried out, we can say that there is a tendency to improve the demographic situation in seven regions, which is very significant in solving the problems of population resettlement.

Thus, the settlement of the population is a complex socio-economic process, which is based on the economic development of the regions, the development of industries that provide employment in the territory, social and infrastructure sectors. In our opinion, the “new role” of population settlement is due to the active process of urbanization and the weakening of the position of rural areas. The settlement of the population is considered as an independent system that influences the course of economic development, social aspects of lifestyle and quality of life and the environment.

Prospects for the economic development of settlement types contribute to the effectiveness of the settlement of the population as a territorial organization of the main productive force – a human.

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