

# Growth of Population and Problems of the Samarkand Region of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Kadirov M.A., Samarkand State University  
Ibragimov Lutfullo Ziyadullaevich, Samarkand State University

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## Abstract:

The article discusses the dynamics of the population of the Samarkand region, the average annual population growth rate and population growth in cities and rural areas, as well as the problems of the region

**Keywords:** *population dynamics, birth rate, mortality, natural increase, average annual growth rate, mechanical growth, urbanization, concentration, problem.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

The fourth area of the "Strategy of Action in the five main areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021" by the President of our country Sh.M. Mirziyoyeva pays great attention to the issue of the population and its social protection. This, in turn, requires an in-depth study of the geography of the population in the regions [1].

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the main factor in socio-economic development is the rapid increase in population and labor resources. In this regard, labor-intensive branches of industry and agriculture, production of consumer goods are developing here. At the same time, depending on the development and territorial organization of production, the resettlement structure is changing, which, in turn, is due to shifts in the industrial structure of production, the location of industrial enterprises in small towns and rural areas, the development of small industries, and the expansion of the service sector [9].

The geographical study of the population has always been central to economic and social geography. The peculiarity of the demographic situation in the Samarkand region is, first of all, in the high population growth rates, significantly exceeding the indicators of other regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Intensive population growth is mainly due to its large natural growth. Moreover,

the role of this source of demographic growth at all stages was great, it also determines the regional characteristics of population dynamics [10].

## II. GOAL AND TASKS

The aim of the study is a comprehensive study of population growth and problems of the Samarkand region of the Republic of Uzbekistan based on a number of statistical indicators. To do this, it is necessary to solve the following tasks:

- 1) to analyze the state of population growth in the Samarkand region and its features;
- 2) to study the average annual population growth rate of the region from 1926 to 2019;
- 3) analyze the population growth of cities and rural areas;
- 4) identify rural areas with a maximum and a minimum population;
- 5) to identify, based on studies of population growth, the problems of the Samarkand region.

## III. METHODS AND MATERIALS

When writing the article, statistical, comparative and comparative methods were used, statistical materials of the Samarkand regional statistical office were used.

Results and discussions. High fertility rates and relatively low mortality rates determine the rapid population growth in the Samarkand region. As Table 1 shows, as a whole for 1926-2019. the population of the region of age is more than 3 times.

For the first doubling of the population of the region, it took more than 50 years. In 1979, 2 times more population lived here than in 1926. The urban population as a whole for the years 1926-1995 grew 3.9 times, while the total number of rural residents over these years increased by 2.8 times. The study shows that the pace of the population, including urban and rural areas in some years were not the same. For example, the highest growth rates of the entire population were recorded in 1995–2019, and the lowest — in 1939–1959 [12].

Table 1.

The average annual population growth rate of the Samarkand region( in % )

Year	Total population	City population	Rural population
1926-1939	1,45	1,65	1,45
1939-1959	0,70	2,80	0,04
1959-1970	1,55	0,03	2,85
1970-1979	2,60	8,65	0,45
1979-1994	3,05	2,00	3,50
1995-2019	5,00	5,00	5,00

The table is compiled by the author.

The maximum growth rates of the urban population are found in 1970-1979, which is caused in turn by the high rates of bed formation and industrialization of the region. In rural areas, the population grew most rapidly in 1979-1994 [14].

In identifying the real dynamics of the population, analysis of the average annual growth and

population growth rates for a particular period is of great importance. As you can see, the urban population of the Samarkand region only for 1991-2019. increased 2 times.

At the same time, Urgut, Dzhambay, Bulungur and Aktash are distinguished by higher rates of demographic development. At the same time, in Payaryk and Dzhuma, the population increased relatively slowly [17].

An analysis of the trends and factors of regional development shows that the proportion of the urban population in the Samarkand region for 1979-1999 did not increase. For example, in 1989 it amounted to 31% against 37%, 1979, and in 1998 -29%, in 2019 - more than 35%. This paradoxical phenomenon was associated with changes in the administrative boundaries of the regional center of Samarkand, as well as the transfer of many rural settlements to the category of urban settlements in 2009.

In recent years, the population of Samarkand has increased due to the connection of the countryside, which are located close to the city. For example, in 1991 the population of the city was over 391 thousand people. or about 18% of the total population of the region, and in 2019 -538.2 thousand people. or more than 14%. As you can see, the population increased by 147.2 thousand people, and the share in the total population of the region fell by 3%.

It is known that population density serves as an important indicator of settlement. It simultaneously indicates the level of economic development of the territory and its population [5]. The total population density of the region as a whole is 226.3 people. for 1 km. square with a population density of Samarkand over 4.8 thousand people. (2019). This reflects the level of urban population concentration. The average population of urban settlements in 1970 was about 36 thousand people, in 1979 this figure decreased by 6 thousand people, in 1989 -31 thousand people, and in 2019 amounted to more than 14 thousand people. The decrease in the average population of urban settlements in 1970 was only 7,

and in 1979 an additional 8 settlements were added to them and 15 became them, in 1995 this number reached 22. By the decision of the Samarkand hokimiyat, in 2009 another 88 urban settlements

appeared in the region, therefore, the average population of urban settlements decreased.

Table 2.  
The dynamics of the rural population of the region

Name of districts	Population thousand			Increase in percentage	
	1991	2000	2019	1991-2000	1991-2019
Samarkand region	2200,9	2670,3	3798,7	121,3	174,1
The urban population of the region	674,2	724,1	1350,2	107,4	211,5
The rural population of the region	1526,7	1946,2	2170,9	127,4	157,7
Areas:	80,3	101,7	143,6	126,6	195,4
Akdaryinsky	96,4	124,1	168,0	128,7	191,2
Bulungursky	89,8	114,3	152,0	127,3	188,8
Jambai	124,7	160,8	227,3	128,9	200,5
Ishtyhansky	143,6	181,8	246,6	126,6	187,4
Kattakurgan	65,8	86,0	117,9	130,6	196,6
Koshrabad	115,6	144,6	193,9	125,0	183,4
Narpaysky	82,9	95,1	135,8	114,7	178,6
Nurabad	131,7	86,7	225,2	65,8	187,1
Payaryksky	142,0	176,5	318,4	124,2	245,7
Pastdargom	86,6	112,2	132,1	128,4	164,5
Pakhtachi	298,7	242,1	228,1	81,0	83,2
Samarkand	-	126,9	179,8	-	-
Tailak	239,5	315,5	448,6	131,7	208,7
The table is compiled by the author on the basis of the regional statistical office					

The rural population of the region is growing rather quickly. According to the data in Table 2, in 1991 Samarkand, Urgut, and Kattakurgan districts stood out among rural areas in terms of population, and the minimum population was noted in Koshrabad and Akdarya districts. Over the past 1991-2000, the growth rate of the rural population increased, which was especially characteristic of the Urgut, Kattakurgan and Pastdargom regions. Slow population growth is observed in the Nurabad and Akdarya regions [19].

The marked tendencies of population growth in the villages of the region are also characteristic of subsequent years. So, in 1991-2019. the population is growing most rapidly in Urgut and Ishtikhan districts, while in Pakhtachi and Nurabad, this growth was minimal. In the same place in Samarkand district, the population decreased, this was due to a change in the boundaries of the district.

The rapid growth of the rural population creates the conditions for the development of labor-intensive industries, as well as small businesses.

According to the 1979 census, in the region there were 280 SNPs (rural settlements) with a population of over 1000 people. This figure increased in 1995 and amounted to 692, in 2019 their number is 1892. The growth of large strategic drugs is particularly intensive in Paiaryk, their number is 210, in Kattakurgan -172, in Ishtikhan and Pastdargom regions.

Among SNPs, the population growth rate stands out with. Guss of Urgut region, from Arabkhon of Samarkand in the region, etc. More than 12 thousand people live in these SNPs. High growth of large SORs is mainly observed in the Kattakurgan and Samarkand regions, with a low population growth of SORs, the Akdarya, Koshrabad, Narpai regions stand out [8].

The rural population of the region for 1991-2015 increased by 157.7%. At the same time, Pastdargom, Ishtihan, Akdarya, Urgut, Koshrabad districts are distinguished by high growth rates, where a total of 39% of the total rural population of the region lives. 34% of the rural population is in the middle category and 27% in the low. Analysis indicates that the bulk of the population of the region is included in the category with high rates.

Thus, the study shows that population growth rates in cities and rural areas are not the same. One can say ambiguously with regard to the regional center itself. So, in 2019 there were officially more than 538.2 thousand people in it. However, such a sharp increase in the number of city residents was due to the accession of the territory of the enclosing rural area.

In principle, large differences in the dynamics of the population of rural areas are noted, since they all have approximately the same trend in demographic development. In general, the detected trend in the retrospective growth in the number of residents of cities and rural areas can serve as a basis for predicting their demographic development.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

Thus, the scientific and practical conclusions and suggestions arising from the contents of this article can be reduced to the following:

1. The improvement of the territorial organization of the population of the region implies, first of all, the further strengthening of the cities of Samarkand as the organizing center of the regional settlement system. It must be assumed that with the emergence of Tashkent as the capital of a sovereign state of the world community, the main tasks of a domestic nature can increasingly be performed by regional and regional centers — Samarkand, Ferghana, Nukus, and other large cities. They should ensure the territorial-economic and political-geographical integrity of the country [22].

2. It is known that any system, as an organized object and control, must have its own internal structure-subsystem and a system of centers of various hierarchical order [21]. Based on this, the constituent structural elements of the Samarkand regional settlement system should have its own sphere of influence. In this regard, more active development of other cities as organizing centers of resettlement systems will also be required.

3. The study showed that the second largest city in the region, Kattakurgan, is somewhat behind in its development. With the advent of the rapidly growing industrial and regional center of the city of Navoi, the older Kattakurgan lost its intermediary importance between Samarkand and Bukhara, in the area of the settlement system of the Zarafshan valley. Now its sphere of influence is limited only to the western regions of the Samarkand region and the adjacent part of the Navoi region.

4. The improvement of the territorial organization of the population of the region is inextricably linked with the tasks of the comprehensive development of other significant cities, such as Urgut, Bulungur, Ishtykhan, Dzhuma and Aktash. Samarkand and Kattakurgan and as part of the lower regional systems, where they themselves act as the main system-forming center.

5. In solving social problems and improving the life of the rural population, the significance of regional centers is great. Currently, the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan provides for a significant expansion of the rights of the regional authorities of khakimiyats to organize social and economic life in the localities. Therefore, the rural district centers here, 16 of them should take on the functions of comprehensive services to the population and its social needs. For this, it is necessary to strengthen the organizing and serving functions of the regional centers, and above all, such as Koshrabad, Nurabad, Guzalkent, etc.

6. In the context of deepening economic reforms of privatization, hakimiyats of districts and regions will regulate the location of trade enterprises and other branches of the service sector, taking into account specific settlements, population density and settlements. In solving this urgent problem, inventory and the interconnected development of the production and social infrastructure of all populated areas are of great importance, creating the conditions for the full use of labor resources, the location of small and joint ventures.

7. The development of rural settlements will be greatly influenced by the consistent implementation of policy guidelines for improving the national economy. The modernization of agriculture, the widespread dissemination of new forms and methods of land use and others contribute to the socio-economic development of populated areas and their systems.

Of particular importance will be the expected structural changes in the areas of agricultural production and public services. The strengthening of agriculture, the organization of agricultural services and agribusiness stimulate the integrated development of all forms of settlements — urban and rural settlements of various sizes and functional profiles as elements of regional and local settlement systems.

8. The territorial organization of the population is also based on design studies, on the scientific foundations of managing this complex system.

Therefore, it is necessary to update new schemes of the district planning of the region and regions, master plans of the district planning scheme of the region and regions, master plans of populated areas, taking into account the socio-economic policy of a sovereign state. The existing schemes and master plans are outdated and, they were drawn up for the "promising" areas and rural settlements. Now, there is a need to revise these design documents.

9. The management of the national economy of the country and the effectiveness of regional policy largely depends on the administrative territorial structure. In this regard, it is desirable to streamline the grid of rural areas of the region. The stability of the boundaries of the districts and the region is important with the organization of everyday life of the population, provides the ability to conduct large-scale historical and geographical research, the reliability and reliability of statistical information.

10. The present study on the problems of the interdependent development of urban and rural settlements within the framework of the regional settlement system allows us to conclude that similar work is desirable to be carried out in other regions of the republic. And this is the scientific and methodological basic development of the regional policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the regulation and management of the territorial socio-economic development of its constituent parts.

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