



АЛ-ФАРАБИ АТЫНДАҒЫ ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫ АРХИТЕКТУРА ЖӘНЕ ҚАЛАМУ ИСІМДІК АКАДЕМИЯСЫ
АЛ-ФАРАБИ ҚАЗАҚШЫҢ НАЦИОНАЛДЫҚ УНИВЕРСИТЕТІ
AL-FARABI KAZAKH NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

ХАБАРШЫ

ТАРИХ СЕРИЯСЫ

ВЕСТНИК

СЕРИЯ ИСТОРИЧЕСКАЯ

BULLETIN

HISTORY SERIES

2(81) 2016

ISSN 1563-0269

Индекс 75871; 25871

ӘЛ-ФАРАБИ атындағы ҚАЗАҚ ҰЛТТЫҚ УНИВЕРСИТЕТІ

ҚазҰУ ХАБАРШЫСЫ

Тарих сериясы

КАЗАХСКИЙ НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ имени АЛЪ-ФАРАБИ

ВЕСТНИК КазНУ

Серия историческая

AL-FARABI KAZAKH NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

KazNU BULLETIN

History series

№2 (81)

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«Қазақ университеті»
2016

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**THE URBAN
POPULATION IN
KAZAKHSTAN IS THE
CONTEXT OF GLOBAL
TRENDS AND FEATURES
OF URBANIZATION IN
THE COUNTRY IN THE
LATE TWENTIETH AND
EARLY TWENTY-FIRST OF
CENTURY**

With the collapse of the Soviet Union, the process of urbanization and urban population growth has slowed down and even began to show a drop. In the 90 years of the twentieth century, the urban population in Kazakhstan has decreased more intense than the rural. This process has been replaced back, the urban population has increased and agriculture has declined in 1999-2005 years. In 2006-2007, the number of residents fell again, and rural residents increased, which was due to the administrative and territorial changes, the transformation of urban settlements in rural areas. Currently, the overall rate of growth of urban population is much higher than the rate of growth of the villagers. Today, the urban population determines the overall dynamics of the population of Kazakhstan, for example, in 2008-2009 the population growth in the Republic of Kazakhstan took place at the expense of citizens to 74.1%.

The demographic development of population growth trends are remained the urban and rural population decline. By 2001, the urban population of the Republic amounted to 8.3 million (55.8%), agriculture – 6.5 million people (44.2%). The highest proportion of urban population was in the city Karaganda – 82.4%, respectively, and the lowest percentage of the rural population – 17.6%. The urban population of Karaganda region amounted to 1138.8 thousand people, which is comparable with the population of Almaty. Second place in the urban population occupies the East-Kazakhstan – 882.6 thousand people (58.7%). But here too large proportion of the rural population – 41.3% – mainly due to the territory of the former Semipalatinsk region. In third place for the urban population – the South-Kazakhstan oblast – 740.3 thousand people, although the proportion of the urban population is the lowest in the country – only 36.6%. But as the total population of the region is high, and high absolute number of residents. The lower indicator of the share of the urban population was registered only in Almaty region – 28.7%, but this does not include most of Almaty. A high proportion of the urban population showed Mangistau (78.8%) and Pavlodar (63.7%) regions. But in absolute terms, the urban population here is small – 255 thousand and 494.5 In 2003, the urban population of Kazakhstan was 8,457,152 thousand people, in 2007 it increased to 8,833,249 in 2009 to 8,662,919 in 2012 – to 9,127,105, and in 2014 it reached

9,433,482 thousand. In absolute terms, the rural population has also shown growth since 2003 their number has increased from 6,409,685 to 7,727,292 thousand people in 2014. At the same time it has decreased in the share of urban population in the total population, while the share of agriculture has increased. Thus, the share of urban population was 56.9% in 2003, and rural – 43.1%. In 2014, this ratio was 54.9 / 45.1%. Despite the fact that the Republic of Kazakhstan is a country with an average level of urbanization since the end of the twentieth century, and today, it is the trend of urbanization. However, due to the development of immigration, due to the repatriation of ethnic Kazakhs, dispersing mainly in rural areas, there has been an increase in the proportion of rural population in the country.

The results of the 1999 census recorded the most urbanized areas that are Karaganda, where the proportion of the urban population accounted for 82.2%, Mangistau – 78.4%, Pavlodar – 63.4% and East Kazakhstan – 58.8%.

In the period between the censuses of 1989 and 1999 a significant reduction of the urban population was noted in Akmola (to 122 thousand or 24.3%), Karaganda (to 267.4 thousand or 18.7%) and the East Kazakhstan (to 131.9 thousand or 12.8%) regions. At the same time its observed in Kostanay by 3.7 percentage, Aktobe – 2.1, North Kazakhstan by 1.9, 0.5 Karaganda, East Kazakhstan – to about 4 and Kyzylorda – on 0.3 [1].

The 2009 census noted the increase in urban population in most regions of Kazakhstan. As before, the greatest number of citizens was observed

in Karaganda region (1,039,005 persons.). In the second place – South Kazakhstan (970 164) on the third – the East Kazakhstan region (801,145). 10.9% respectively. In the period between the censuses of 1999 and 2009 the urban population in the South Kazakhstan region has increased by 178,831 people, or 1.2 times.

Share according to the 2009 census, the urban population accounted for 54.2%, agriculture 45.8% (PN 1999 – 56.4%). The decline of 2.2 points [2].

The most urbanized regions were Karaganda (where lived 77.8% of the urban population), Pavlodar (67.9%) and Aktobe (61.1%) regions.

In 2013, the proportion of the urban population of Kazakhstan was 54.9%, having increased in comparison with 2009 by 0.7%. Karaganda region is still the most urbanized region in Kazakhstan, the proportion of citizens rose to 78.4% (PN 2009 – 77.8%). It is followed by Pavlodar – 69.2% (PN 2009 – 67.9%), Aktobe – 61.6% (PN 2009 – 61.1%). In all of these areas the percentage of the urban population has increased in the years 2009–2013, which was caused by the development in them within SPAID new productions.

Geographically, the majority of the urban population is concentrated in the Central Kazakhstan. The territorial distribution of the urban population is presented in Table 1 [3].

In 2013 comparing 2009, the urban population has grown, as in the whole country and by region. The largest increase was registered in Western Kazakhstan – 108, 9%.

Table 1 – The urban population of Kazakhstan and its regions in 2009 and 2013

	2009	2013	2013 в % к 2009
Kazakhstan	8 662 919	9 277 657	107,1
South	2 093 869	2 238 148	106,9
West	1 238 577	1 349 540	108,9
East	801 145	815 502	101,8
Central	1 039 005	1 068 385	102,8
North	1 523 192	1 552 455	101,9

In 1999, the largest city of Kazakhstan is Almaty, where 1,130,100 people lived.. The cities with a population of 450 thousand people treated Karaganda, Shymkent, Taraz, Astana, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Pavlodar; up to 300 thousand inhabitants – Semey,

Aktobe, Kostanay, Petropavlovsk.; up to 200 thousand – Uralsk, Temirtau, Atyrau, Kyzylorda, Aktau, Ekibastuz, Kokshetau, Ore. The rest of the cities had a population of less than 100 thousand. Man. At the same time, in 1999, almost all cities

there was a reduction in population and only four – its growth: Astana (35.2 thousand people, or 12.8%), Almaty (57.5 thousand person, or 5.4%), Taraz (26.1 thousand, or 8.6%) and Kyzyl-Orda (7 thousand pers., or 4.7%). The largest decrease in the number of inhabitants was recorded in Karaganda (70.4 thousand, or 13.9%), Semipalatinsk (by 47.5 thousand. Pers., Or 15%), Temirtau (43.1 thousand people., or 20.2%).

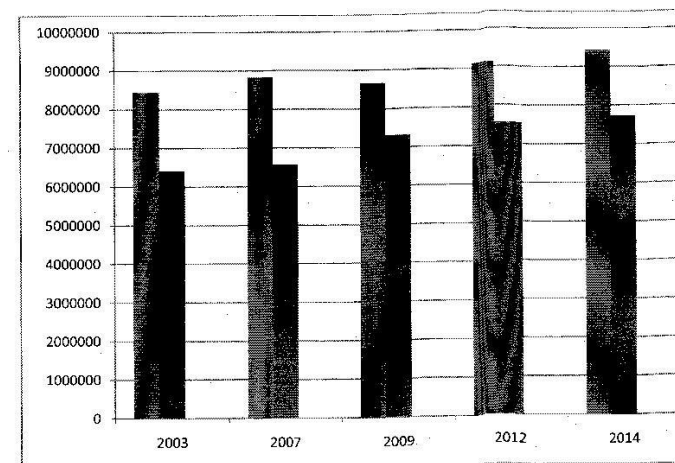
The ethnic composition of the urban population there are significant changes related to the ongoing process of urbanization of the Kazakh ethnic group. So, since 1989 the Kazakhs have increased their representation in the cities by 75.6%. A share of Kazakhs in the composition of the urban population has risen by 24 points and reached 50.6% by 2006. Currently, the title ethnic group is more than half the population of cities in Kazakhstan.

On activation of the Kazakhs urbanization also indicates the specific ratio of the people who live in towns and villages as part of the ethnic group of the population, which in 2006 came close to equal performance: 49.4% and 50.6%. In comparison with

1989, when the proportion of urban residents in the composition of the Kazakh population was equal to 38.4%, one can observe an increase in the proportion of 11 points, or 28.6%, with a similar reduction in its villagers. In other ethnic groups there was a reduction in the number of cities of Kazakhstan. There can be distinguished Russian, whose number decreased by 36.6%, Germans – 74.8%, and Ukrainians – 53.1%.

In 2013, the majority of citizens amounted to Kazakhs. Only in 2010–2013 years the Kazakh population of the urban population increased from 4833131 to 5456746, the Russian population has decreased from 2767037 to 2710396 people. Russian now account for 29.1% of the urban population, the Kazakhs today represented 58.82% [4].

In terms of economic regions of the urban population predominates in the Centre, East and West Kazakhstan. Southern and Northern regions are still the least urbanized in the country. Since 2003, it began to increase the number, both urban and rural populations. Fig. 1 – Changes in the number of urban and rural population of Kazakhstan in 2003–2014 gg. [5].



Figure

In 2003, the urban population of Kazakhstan was 8,457,152 thousand people, in 2007 it increased to 8,833,249 in 2009 –. To 8,662,919 in 2012 – 9,127,105, and in 2014 reached 9,433,482 thous.. In absolute terms, the rural population has also shown

growth since 2003 their number has increased from 6,409,685 to 7,727,292 thousand people in 2014. At the same time there was a decrease in the share of urban population in the total population, while the share of agriculture – increased. Thus, the share of

urban population was 56.9% in 2003, and rural – 43.1%. In 2014, this ratio was 54.9 / 45.1%. Despite the fact that the Republic of Kazakhstan is a country with an average level of urbanization since the end of the twentieth century, and today, the trend of urbanization. However, due to the development of immigration due to the repatriation of ethnic Kazakhs, dispersing mainly in rural areas, there has been an increase in the proportion of rural population in the country.

In 2014 in Kazakhstan there were 30 cities with a population numbering 50,000 or more inhabitants, and a population of over 100 thousand and 22 cities. In 01/01/2014, the urban population in Kazakhstan was 43%.

The largest city is Almaty Kazakhstan, home to more than 1400 thousand. People (in the metropolitan area around 2100 thousand people).

Cities with population of 600 thousand inhabitants are: Karaganda, Shymkent, Astana.

Cities with population of 400 thousand inhabitants are: Taraz, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Pavlodar, Semey, Aktobe.

Cities with population of 200 thousand inhabitants are: Kostanay, Petropavlovsk, Uralsk, Temirtau, Atyrau, Kyzylorda.

Cities with population of 100 thousand inhabitants are: Turkestan, Aktau, Ekibastuz, Kokshetau, Rudny, Zhezkazgan, Taldykorgan.

Other cities have a population of less than 100 thousand people: Ridder, Baikonur, Balkhash, Satpayev, Kentau, Stepnogorsk, Zhanaozen, Shakhinsk.

14 cities are regional centers: Kokshetau, Aktobe, Taldykorgan, Atyrau, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Taraz, Uralsk, Karaganda, Kostanay, Kyzylorda, Aktau, Pavlodar, Petropavlovsk, Shymkent. The two cities have the status of republican significance: Alma-Ata (Almaty), Astana (the capital). Other large cities are the cities of regional subordination: Stepnogorsk in Akmola region; Zhanaozen in Atyrau oblast; Semey and Ridder of the East Kazakhstan region; Balkhash, Zhezkazgan, Satpayev, Temirtau, Shakhinsk Karaganda region; Baikonur in Kyzylorda oblast; Rudny in Kustanai region; Ekibastuz in Pavlodar region; Kentau and Turkestan in South Kazakhstan region [6].

Table 2

M	Name of cities	Region	Population	Place	Name of cities	Region	Population
1	Almaty	-	1 507 737	12	Kyzylorda	Kyzylorda	213 165
2	Astana	-	814 401	13	Petropavl	North-Kazakhstan	207 402
3	Shymkent	South Kazakhstan	683 273	14	Atyrau	Atyrau	196 494
4	Karaganda	Karaganda	484 596	15	Aktau	Mangystau	181 526
5	Aktobe	Aktobe	377 520	16	Temirtau	Karaganda	175 632
6	Taraz	Zhambul	351 476	17	Turkestan	South Kazakhstan	155 549
7	Pavlodar	Pavlodar	329 901	18	Kokshetau	Akmola	140 846
8	Ust-Kamenogorsk	East Kazakhstan	314 014	19	Taldykorgan	Almaty	135 217
9	Semipalatinsk	East Kazakhstan	312 065	20	Ekibastuz	Pavlodar	130 903
1	Ural	West Kazakhstan	227 385	21	Rudnyi	Kostanay	114 170
1	Kostanay	Kostanay	221 970	22	Zhanaozen	Mangystau	106 221

So, still the largest largest city in Kazakhstan is Almaty, which today is the home to more than half a million people. In the near future, one million people will become the center of the capital Astana and South Kazakhstan region – Shymkent. For example, the population of Astana during the intercensal period increased from 328,300 people – in 1999 to 613 thousand people – in 2009, ie, population increased by 1.9 times, while the total population

of the republic the share of Astana city population increased from 2.2% – in 1999 to 3.8% – in 2009 and had one of the highest growths in comparison with other regions of the republic. Thus, at the present moment the Republic of Kazakhstan is a country with a fairly high level of urbanization, the urban population as a whole is close to 60% of the total number. In some regions, such as in the center and east of the urbanized population share exceeds 80%.

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