DEMOGRAPHIC POSITION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KARAKALPAKSTAN

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Annotatsiya: Qoraqalpog’iston Respublikasida aholi soni dinamikasidagi o’zgarishlar, aholining yosh va jins tarkibi, uning hududlar bo’yich joylanishi, mustaqillik yillarida tug’ulish, o’lim holati, nikoh hamda nikohni bekor qilish kabi demografik jarayonlarni ifodalovchi ko’rsatkichlar dinamikasidagi o’zgarishlar tahlili ilmiy nuqtai nazardan tadqiq etildi.

Kalit so’zlar: aholi soni, yosh va jins tarkibi, joylanish, foiz, nisbat, promille, demografiya, tug’ilish, o’lim holati, nikoh, ajralish, koefitsient.

Annotation: Changes in demographic dynamics in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, age and gender composition of the population, population distribution
by region, birth, death, divorce and annulment of marriage have been scientifically studied over the period of independence.

**Keywords:** population, age and gender composition, location, percentage, ratio, promille, demographics, birth, death, marriage, divorce, coefficient

**Introduction.** The social and economic development of each country has its own demographic profile. The word demographics means interpreting the population [5]. Population is an integral part of society and an important factor in its development. Increasing or decreasing populations cause certain problems in the development of society. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out regular research of the demographic situation in order to achieve a healthy population growth. The demographic situation is expressed in demographic processes such as population, composition, natural growth, birth, death, marriage, and divorce [6].

An analysis of a demographic situation usually begins with a study of demographics. Of these, the most important is the population size. Although Uzbekistan is currently experiencing a decline in natural population growth, including Karakalpakstan, this indicator is still relatively high. The demographic development of the population is reflected in the changes in its quantitative and qualitative characteristics. Quantitative development of the population is understood as the numerical change in the population of a particular area or nation over a period of time. Qualitative development of the population is mainly reflected in its health, life expectancy, education level and so on.

The demographic development of the population is the key to the strengthening and development of society. The quantity and quality of the population are constantly changing under the influence of generations. Generation change that determines demographic characteristics of the population ensures continuity in society. Therefore, a comprehensive scientific study of demographic activity of the population in the context of structural changes in the economy is a priority.

**The main part.** As of early 2019, over 1669,8 thousand people lived in Karakalpakstan. It was 5,6% of the population. In the gender composition of the population, men were 50,2% (938,4 thousand), and women – 49,8% (931,4 thousand).
49,1% of the population lived in urban areas and 50,9% in rural areas. 30,7% of the population in the region are under the working age, 60,3% are of working age and 9,0% are older than working age. The average age is 28,2 [10].

The population of Karakalpakstan is unique. More than half of the population lives in the southern part of the region: Turtkul (11,3%), Amudarya (10,4%), Beruni (10,0%) and Ellikkala (8,4%) districts.

During the years of independence the population of the Republic of Karakalpakstan increased by 147,2% (599.3 thousand). Population growth varies by region. In particular, between 1991 and 2018, population growth in Ellikkala, Kegeyli, Amudarya, Turtkul, Beruni and Kanlikul, Chimboy districts and Nukus was significantly higher than in Karakalpakstan. In all other regions, growth is below average.

An analysis of the dynamics of birth rates shows that the following changes in the overall fertility rate have been observed in Karakalpakstan since independence. Between 1991 and 2000, the overall fertility rate dropped to 12,9 pro mil. In 2000-2010 this indicator decreased by 2.7 pro mil and in 2010-2018 by 2,1 pro mil. Overall, the overall birth rate declined by 16,3 pro mil in 1991-2018.

According to statistical data, 3,8 percent of all newborns are aged 15-19 years, 30,1 percent are 20-24 years, 35,4 percent are 25-29 years old, 21,7 percent are 30-34 years and 7.8 percent are 35-39 years, 1,2 percent are 40 and older years referred to rather older mothers then them. Compared to 2000, the share of births among mothers of 15-19 years, 20-24 years has decreased. However, the proportion of births among mothers of 25-29 as well as age 30 and older has increased [10].

Currently, the majority of births are in the 20-24 and 25-29 and 30-34 age groups. In 2018, the average age at first birth in Karakalpakstan is 23,9. This indicator is slightly higher than the average for Uzbekistan (23,7 years) [10].

In 2018, 31,1 percent of children born in total were born with the first child, 35,2 percent with the second child, 25,2 percent with the third child, 7,4 percent with the fourth child and 1,1 percent with the fifth and subsequent series of the birth. In 2000-2018 years, mothers' fertility of the fourth and subsequent children was reduced. For
example, if in 2000 year 16.4 percent of all births made up the fourth and subsequent children, then this figure was reduced by two times by 2018 year. This is the case in all cities and rural areas of Karakalpakstan. In conclusion, the change in women's attitudes towards the number of children in the family is greatly influenced by their status in the community and in the family, increased women's involvement in social production, increased awareness and culture, and the widespread use of various modern preventive pregnancies. This is a major factor in the transition of young families to low- and middle-income families. Consequently, socio-demographic activity of families is influenced by radical changes in the status of women in the family and society in the new economic environment.

Of course, analysis of mortality is of particular importance in the demographic situation. The mortality rate reflects the health status of the population for a certain period. Although the healthcare system has expanded over the years of independence, the incidence of various diseases has increased. As a result, the mortality rate of the population, especially infants, children and mothers, remains relatively high.

In 2018, the overall mortality rate in the Republic of Karakalpakstan was 4.6 pro mil. The absolute death toll was 8602. Compared to 1991, the overall death rate declined by 2.2 pro mil. The absolute number increased by 126%. In terms of sex, the total number of deaths was 55.1 percent for men and 44.9 percent for women. Men's share in total deaths has always been high.

Population mortality varies by age. For example, in 2018 about 8.4% of all deaths are children aged 0-5 years. This is 5.2 percent lower than the 2000 death rate. In the age group, mortality rates in every age groups between 55-59, 60-64, 65-69 and 75-79 are higher then 10%. Also in these age groups, the percentage of deaths increased compared to 2000 years. The prevalence of mortality in this group is to some extent explained by the fact that the population is "aging," ie, the proportion of older people increases.

The analysis of infant mortality is also important in the study of mortality rates. The infant mortality rate is an important factor in the socioeconomic development of each country. In Karakalpakstan during the years of independence the mortality rate
among children under one year decreased. For example, infant mortality in 1991 was 51.2 pro mil and in 2000 it was 20.3 pro mil. By 2018, it was 13.9 per mille. Nevertheless, in terms of infant mortality, Karakalpakstan is a leading figure in Uzbekistan. This may be explained by the unhealthy lifestyle in the family and the poor environmental situation. In general, over the years of independence, the infant mortality rate in Karakalpakstan decreased by 37.3 pro mil.

The main criterion of public health is the life expectancy. The average life expectancy in Karakalpakstan in 2018 was 73.2 years (70.9 years for men and 75.6 years for women). The average life expectancy is 1.4 years less than the national average of Uzbekistan. It is 1.4 years less than for men and women. In recent years, the life expectancy for men has increased significantly. This may be explained by the fact that the opportunity for an active life in the development of entrepreneurial activity in the country has a positive effect on men's life expectancy.

In summary, the reduction in mortality, especially of infant mortality, is associated with a dramatic improvement in public health services. Promoting a high level of medical education, hygiene and sanitation of the population, combating alcoholism and drug addiction, turning sports into a vital necessity, and finding real means to combat various diseases is to reduce morbidity and mortality.

The demographic situation is also influenced by cases of marriage and divorce. According to statistics, in Karakalpakstan in 2018 there were 14,450 marriages. Of the marriages, 54% were rural and 46% were urban residents. In the period from 1991 to 2018, the number of marriages per 1000 people in Karakalpakstan fell from 13.7 to 7.8 per mille, or 5.9 per mille. Reduction in the marriage rate over the years of independence was due to changes in the demographic structure of the country's population. In conclusion, achieving at least 20 years of marriage is one of the key factors in building a strong and healthy family. According to medical researchers, the unwillingness of girls married to 16-17 years of marriage to a family life can lead to various negative consequences.

Freedom of marriage also provides for freedom of divorce. It is well known that some of the marriages that have been formed over time are dissolved by the death of a
husband or wife, and some by a disagreement. According to statistics, in Karakalpakstan the number of divorces increased by 129% between 1991 and 2018. The number of divorces was 1042 in 1991, and in 2018 it was 1344. Cancellation of the marriage contract per 1000 people fell from 0,8 to 0,7 per mille, almost unchanged. City divorces accounted for 61,5% of divorces and 38,5% of rural residents (2018). In summary, the low socio-economic and spiritual maturity of young men and women leads to divorce.

**Summary.** Significant changes have been observed in the demographic development of the population during the years of independence. Major social and economic changes in the development of society have had a direct impact on demographic trends in the population. Obviously, the attitude of women to the number of children has changed. The place of polygamy was replaced by average childhood and low childhood.

Demand for more children was declining due to the development of the industry, increasing the level of education of women and changing their place in social life. In addition, the development of the medical field has led to a widespread reduction in the mortality rate and the average life expectancy.

Population data is a very important part of the information on which to build and develop. Population data are of particular importance now. This is primarily due to the task of pursuing effective demographic policies related to population development. An effective demographic policy for the population has been at the heart of state programs developed during the years of independence.

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[1] Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 7, 2017 № P-4947 "On the strategy of further development of the Republic of Uzbekistan".
