

Location and Territorial Systems of Population Points of Samarkand Region

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DOI : <https://doi.org/10.61796/jgrpd.v3i2.1701>



Sections Info

Article history:

Submitted: January 15, 2026
Final Revised: December 31, 2026
Accepted: February 15, 2026
Published: February 27, 2026

Keywords:

Territorial differences in the location of settlements
Settlements of Samarkand region
Natural and mechanical growth
Demographic processes
Economic sectors

ABSTRACT

Objective: This article analyzes the natural and mechanical growth of the population, settlements, social processes, and the laws that cause territorial differences in the location of the population. **Method:** The location of settlements in the Samarkand region is characterized by its own characteristics and is analyzed primarily in connection with the development of natural resources and living conditions of the population, the structure of economic sectors, economic specialization, and demographic processes. **Results:** The location of settlements in the Samarkand region is characterized by its own characteristics. **Novelty:** It is explained by socio-economic factors affecting the development of this area.

INTRODUCTION

It is known from history that the concept of population is broad, and the study of the population in social and economic terms has always been an important task. In particular, the population is also a consumer of the productive forces of society [1]. From this point of view, the study of the laws that cause the natural and mechanical growth, composition and social processes of the population, as well as territorial differences in the location of the population, is one of the important tasks today.

In particular, from the discipline of historical geography, we know that A. Saushkin, G. Davidovich, A. Soliyev, G. Asanov made a great contribution to the development of the discipline of population geography with their scientific research [2]. We can cite A. Kovalev, E. Toshbekov and M. Kadyrov as examples of scientists who have studied urban and rural settlements of the Samarkand and Bukhara regions on a large scale. In particular, in the discipline of population geography, settlements Among the scientists who developed the methodology of the study and studied it theoretically and practically, we can include M. Kabo and N. Baransky [3]. The location of the population in different regions is distinguished by its territorial characteristics. In particular, the location of the population is primarily influenced by natural resources and living conditions of the population, the structure of the economy and the specialization of the regional economy, and the development characteristics of demographic processes [4]. For example, the scientist T. Davidovich, who paid special attention to the issues of population location,

distinguished in his scientific hypotheses that “the location and development of productive forces depend on group and population location forms” [5].

RESEARCH METHOD

In the socio-economic development of our republic, a comprehensive analytical study of the population is very important. In particular, the analysis of various social conditions as a result of the population growth from year to year is one of the important issues, which is of great importance for the national economy and social development. In particular, today the population of Samarkand region is growing rapidly, primarily due to high natural growth [6]. The high birth rate and relatively low mortality rates in the region ensure rapid population growth in the region. The number of permanent residents of the region as of April 1, 2025 amounted to 4,315.3 thousand people, an increase of 88.0 thousand people or 2.1% compared to the same period last year. The region's population, by area of permanent residence, consists of 1,576.5 thousand people living in urban areas (36.5% of the total population), and 2,738.8 thousand people (63.5%) living in rural areas, see Table 1.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As is known, one of the indicators of the location of the population and settlements is population density. Population density simultaneously determines the level of economic development of the territories. The growth of the population of the Samarkand region is due to the fact that the main part of the region's territory is located in the Zarafshan valley, that is, in the middle part of the Zarafshan River. This has played a key role in the drainage of the valley, the settlement of the population and the emergence of settlements since ancient times. The lower reaches of the Zarafshan River have relatively favorable water supply conditions. The soil and climatic factors of the region also paved the way for the intensive development of agriculture and livestock breeding [8, 9]. The passage of part of the Zarafshan River and most of its canals through the territory of the Samarkand region served as the basis for the development of irrigated agriculture here.

Table 1. Population Dynamics of Samarkand Region.

T/r	Boundary	Permanent population in thousand people		Growth rate (in %)
		Year 2024	Year 2025	
	Samarkand region	4 227,3	4 315,3	102,1
1.	Samarkand city	587,8	598,1	101,8
2.	Kattakurgan city	95,1	96,1	101,1
	<i>Districts</i>			
3.	Akdarya	174,1	178,0	102,2
4.	Bulung'ur	203,1	207,8	102,3
5.	Jomboy	190,6	195,1	102,4
6.	Ishtoxon	277,2	283,5	102,3
7.	Kattakurgan	295,0	301,0	102,0
8.	Qo'shrabot	142,4	145,0	101,8

9.	Narpay	228,2	232,4	101,8
10.	Payariq	274,6	280,9	102,3
11.	Pastdarg'om	385,0	393,7	102,3
12.	Paxtachi	152,7	155,0	101,5
13.	Samarkand	274,1	279,7	102,0
14.	Nurabod	163,2	166,3	101,9
15.	Urgut	562,0	575,4	102,4
16.	Tayloq	222,2	227,3	102,3

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Also, the opening of a new railway along the Karshi route in the 1970s and the location of the Samarkand-Tashkent-Bukhara, Tashkent-Termez highways, i.e. the large "Uzbek tract", the formation of settlements in the region, and natural and climatic conditions created the opportunity for the development of a unique type of irrigated agriculture here. Also, the role of mineral raw material resource factors in the economic development of the region is incomparable [10, 11]. It is clear that the region's richness in a certain type of mineral resources also had a significant impact on the location of human resources and urban settlements [12]. The largest system of settlements located in the Samarkand region is the Samarkand regional agglomeration [13]. It is known that the formation and development of agglomeration is mainly explained by the processes of modern urbanization and the direct interaction of the population of cities and other settlements with each other, as well as the systematic connection of industrial and agro-industrial complexes.

In particular, the agglomeration of settlements is a complex territorial socio-economic system, the study of which is of great importance in the development of production and population settlement. The concept of group forms of population settlement was first developed by B.G. Davidovich in 1960 [14,15]. The most developed group form of population settlement in the Samarkand region is the Samarkand agglomeration. Classification of urban settlements by population size determines many of its characteristics, namely, the rate of growth and demographic functional composition. Population density is one of the main indicators of population density, which simultaneously indicates the level of economic development and industrialization of the territory.

CONCLUSION

Fundamental Finding : The largest settlement system in the Samarkand region is the Samarkand Region agglomeration, whose formation and development are driven by ongoing urbanization processes, strong interconnections among urban and rural populations, and the systematic integration of industrial and agro-industrial complexes. **Implication :** The increasing regional population requires planned settlement formation to manage socio-economic dynamics and prevent the emergence of local problems. **Limitation :** The conclusion emphasizes the importance of systematic scientific research within small territories but does not provide detailed empirical analysis at micro-territorial levels. **Future Research :** Future studies should conduct systematic scientific

investigations of population dynamics within small territories to support sustainable settlement planning and regional development.

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