

# SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS AND RISKS OF URBANIZATION IN KAZAKHSTAN

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**Abstract:** The article presents theoretical and practical issues of urbanization. The paper explores the theoretical concepts of regional development and their specific practical implementation.

The statistical data on the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2019 and 2020 are analyzed. An analysis of the factors of urbanization in the regions of the country is made. The relationship between the processes of urbanization and population migration is shown. Regional differences in the level of urbanization of the cities of the republic are given.

The paper notes that urbanization should not be an end in itself, but it is only a consequence of the effective distribution of productive forces. An example of the rational management of the urban environment should be a rational system of urban construction, public utilities, all infrastructure and the creation of a comfortable cultural environment.

The paper proposes the development of rural entrepreneurship as an alternative. Correlation dependences of interrelation of urbanization with factors of migration, industrialization and economic growth are given. A model of the dependence of urbanization and these factors is proposed. The article also notes that urbanization for Kazakhstan may pose some threat due to the relatively low population density and the decrease in the population of remote settlements and uncontrolled migration of the population. It is necessary to continue researching the processes of urbanization of Kazakhstan in the direction of developing the theory in relation to the characteristics of a country with a low population density. In terms of practical recommendations, our

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research should provide some incentive to further control migration processes and increase the level of industrialization of the regions of Kazakhstan.

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## 1. Introduction and Study Background

In developed countries, three quarters of the population live in cities. In the UK, the level of urbanization reaches 82.3%, in the USA - 81.4%, in France - 79.3%, in Germany - 75.1%. By 2050, the United Nations predicts that 6.2 billion people, or 66% of the world's population, will live in cities. Now there are about 25 large urban agglomerations on the planet, in which more than 10 million people live, these are: San Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Tokyo, New York, Shanghai and Beijing, Mumbai, Jakarta, Mexico City, Moscow, etc. The largest city in the world is Shanghai with a population of more than 24 million people. It is important to note here that cities occupy only about 1% of the land area, while more than half of the world's population is concentrated in them.

Urbanization has a long history, starting with the creation of cities as fortifications and settlements adjacent to them. Urbanization, in the modern sense, implies the migration of the rural population to cities. In most countries of the world, there is a steady trend in the economic development of each state, passing through the stages of industrialization and post-industrialization (Nikolova-Alexieva et al., 2022). Urbanization issues have been considered throughout economic history, since the development of cities and the strengthening of their role in the economy of the state are undoubtedly determining factors.

Urbanization issues are directly related to the distribution of productive forces, the optimization problems of which are studied in the regional economy. At present, the concept of a regional economy also includes spatial factors, that is, the distribution of productive forces not only in a linear plane, but throughout the surrounding space. So, spatial approaches to the resettlement of the population are reflected in the theory of W. Christaller (Christaller, 1966). In the Theory of Central Places in Southern Germany, published in 1932, the author examines patterns in the placement of large cities and their surrounding settlements.

Such approaches are based on achieving socio-economic efficiency of the distribution of productive forces in terms of achieving macroeconomic stability and economic growth of the country, uniform development of regions, minimizing production costs based on the optimization of transport and logistics costs (Iliychovski et al.; Jarmusevica et al., 2019; Kurmanov et al., 2019; Petrova et al., 2022; Toleuuly et al., 2020).

In this regard, the factor of population resettlement in urban areas is of decisive importance. Modern approaches to the regional economy are presented in the theory of growth poles, put forward in the 70s of the 20th century by the French regionalist economists F. Perroux (1968) and J. Boudeville (1968). These approaches and theories found their specific application in the Strategy for the Territorial Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2015 and other program documents for the development of the country (Strategy, 2015). In particular, in the Strategy for Territorial Development, regional cities are defined as pivotal cities of growth points, and the development of megacities provides for the formation of food belts around these cities.

The development of any socio-economic system (regional and sectoral level) is a process of interaction of trends and patterns arising from the features of this system, internally contradictory and dynamic. The study of socio-economic systems is associated with their complexity, the presence of many connections and the influence of external factors (Odinokova et al., 2018; Mussapirov et al., 2019; Zhartay et al., 2017; Yessengeldin et al., 2019; Steblyakova et al., 2022). Urbanization in itself carries many risks associated with increased differentiation in the development of regions and the possible increase in the processes of social stratification in society, caused by different living standards of the city and the countryside.

We will analyze the theoretical and practical aspects of the urbanization of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the relationship with the industrialization of economic processes and migration processes, as a consequence and at the same time the reasons for the growth of urbanization processes in the country. It is necessary to study the impact of urbanization, the level of industrialization and migration processes. We have studied the processes of urbanization in relation to the level of industrialization, the share of each region in the creation of gross domestic product. The basis of our research is the indicators of official statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the country as a whole and for its regions, taking into account the reorganization of the administrative and territorial division of regions that has taken place in recent years.

## Methodology

The level of development of the processes of urbanization of the country and individual regions is influenced by many factors.

The main ones, in our opinion, are the migration of the population, the state of urban infrastructure, the level of industrial development of the country and regions, as well as climatic and spatial factors.

The growth of urbanization processes is influenced by the positive balance of total migration, which ensures the influx of population, both managed and spontaneous migration.

The state of the urban infrastructure determines the level of comfort of the urban environment. It should be emphasized that urbanization, in our understanding, should be a process of civilized urban growth unlike the urban slums of some large cities.

Identification of the relationship between the level of urbanization, the industrialization of industrial development, migration processes, the level of development of infrastructure development and the overall economic growth of the country can be represented as the following function:

$$\Delta U = f(\Delta \text{Ind}, \Delta M \Delta \text{Inf} \Delta \text{GDP}, \Delta \text{SNF}) dt, \quad (1)$$

where  $\Delta U$  - is the level of industrialization, determined by the ratio of the urban and the total population of the country;

$\Delta \text{ind}$  - is the level of industrialization, defined as the degree of provision of industry with fixed assets and taking into account the degree of renewal of funds;

$\Delta M$  - is the level of migration, defined as the balance of total migration, both internal (within the country and within the region) and external (inflow or outflow from other countries);

$\Delta \text{inf}$  - is the level of infrastructural development of the public utilities of cities, calculated by the level of expenditures of the city budget for the creation of the infrastructure of cities;

$\Delta \text{GDP}$  - is the growth rate of gross domestic product created in urban areas; in relation to a certain period;

$\Delta \text{SNF}$  - spatial and natural-climatic factors;

$dt$  - taking into account the time factor.

The calculation of the level of urbanization involves the use of a large array of analytical data. In our study, we have given a conditional mathematical apparatus, the calculation of which requires the derivation of

individual indicators into the form of integral values and therefore requires a separate investigation.

The issue of evaluating the effectiveness of urbanization and its passage through certain stages of its development is complex in nature, including both spontaneous and controlled urbanization. The spontaneous nature of urbanization has an uncontrollable character due to the intensification of migration processes due to a variety of both internal and external factors. The stochastic nature of urbanization gives rise to many problems leading to urban overpopulation, lagging urban infrastructure, an increase in spontaneous construction, social tension, etc. Managed migration is associated with state regional planning and the tasks of optimizing the distribution of the country's productive forces.

Therefore, the study of the impact of the development of urbanization processes, increasing migration on the economic development of the regions is the most important task of the economy of Kazakhstan. It should be noted that in theory, when considering its types of urbanization, as one of its forms, suburbanization is singled out, which provides for the formation of suburban settlements. This direction is consistent with the regional programs of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Thus, according to the latest projects for the development of the metropolis of Almaty, the idea of creating satellite cities is supposed to be implemented.

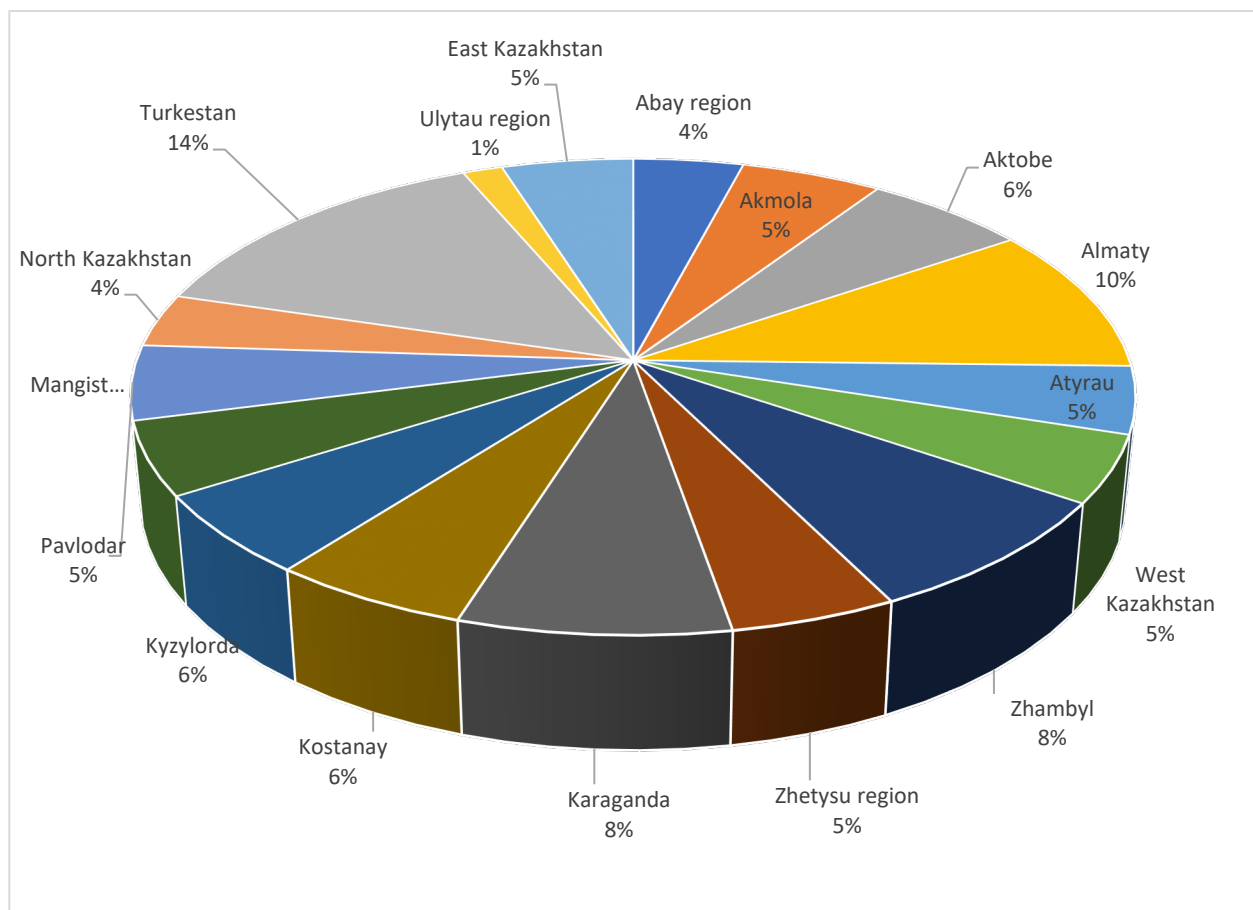
It should be noted that, on an international scale, cities with a significantly larger population can be classified as megacities, but with the relatively small population of Kazakhstan and the large territory, megacities of Kazakhstan have a relatively small population. Therefore, we can return again to the problem of anti-urbanization of our country, since the growth of urbanization causes, accordingly, the decline of small settlements.

### **Results**

Urbanization and population migration are two interrelated and interdependent processes. In a historical retrospective, the active development of industrial sectors, the historical processes of the Stolypin reform to resettle peasants in Kazakhstan, the processes of collectivization, the destruction of the traditional economic system, the forced deportation of people, and the famine of the 20s and 30s of the 20th century were the basis of urbanization in Kazakhstan. These processes led to a disproportion in resettlement throughout the territory of the Republic. In addition, the

processes of accelerated restoration of industries exported from the occupied territories of the country during the Great Patriotic War served as the basis for the formation of cities, industrial centers, the development of which was carried out spontaneously and urban planning principles and industrial production were not taken into account; located in the center of settlements (for example, Ust-Kamenogorsk, Almaty, Karaganda and other cities), practically directly without sanitary standards and the boundaries of the residential zone. This means that political factors also had a great influence on urbanization processes. Disproportions in the distribution of the population by regions led to the existence of labor-surplus and sparsely populated regions of the country.

The diagram in Figure 1 shows the ratio of the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan by region according to 2022 statistics.



Source: Calculated according to the Statistics Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Express information.

Figure 1. Settlement of the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan by region in 2022

Thus, the population of the most labor-surplus region, the Turkestan region, in 2022 amounted to 14% of the total population of the Republic, not taking into account the population of the metropolis of Shymkent whose share reached 6% of the total population of the country.

The old industrial districts of Karaganda and East Kazakhstan regions are significantly inferior to this region, the share of the population of these regions was 8% and 5%, respectively. The lowest population was in the newly created Ulytau region, separated from the Karaganda region. The smallest population was also observed in such agricultural regions as the North Kazakhstan and Almaty regions, which accounted for 4% and 5%, respectively, of the total population of the Republic.

Such differentiation in the distribution of the population has developed historically, but is also a consequence of population migration and urbanization in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

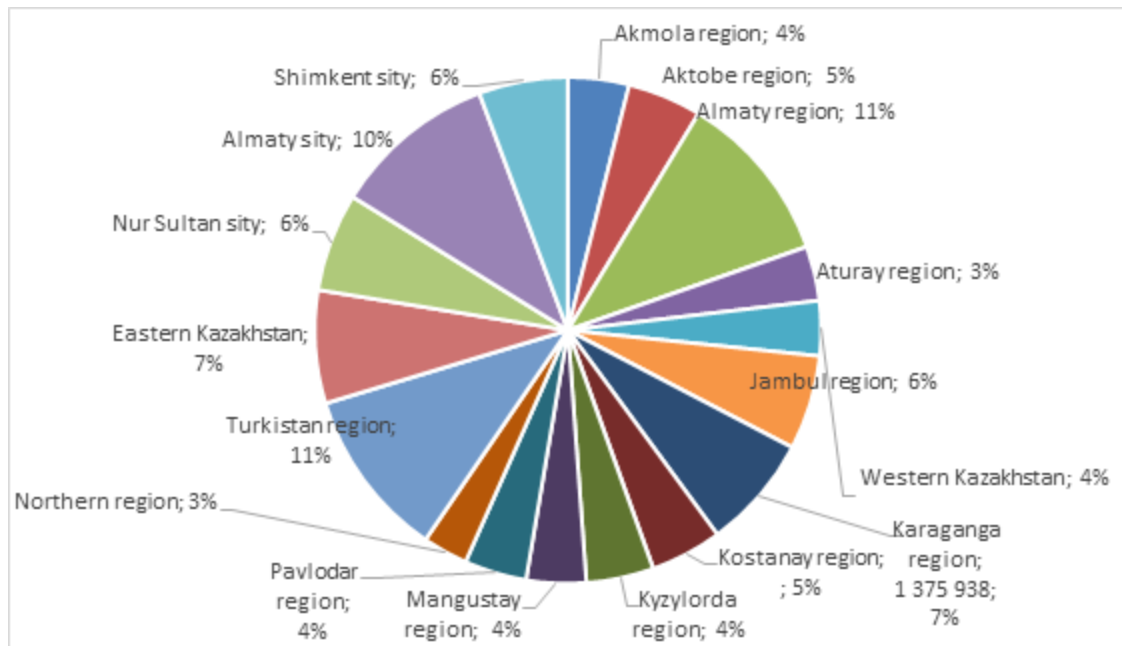
Migration can be divided into controlled and uncontrolled. Controlled migration is carried out in accordance with the state programs for the resettlement of the population from the labor-surplus southern regions to the northern regions, as well as programs for the resettlement of Kandaos to their historical homeland, but to the northern regions. The uncontrolled migration of the population from the regions is caused by objective reasons: the lack and shortage of jobs, especially for young people, the closure of city-forming enterprises, the degradation and decline of rural settlements, the growing difference in the standard of living of cities and villages, the lack and underdevelopment of communal infrastructure, transport remoteness, etc.

Table 1 (in appendix) provides updates on the total population, divided into urban and rural, of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2021 and early 2022. Data for 2021 reflect natural population growth and migration balance.

According to the statistics in 2021, the share of the urban population was 64.4%, and at the beginning of 2022 - 61.7%.

Such a slight decrease in the share of the urban population in 2022 cannot indicate a sustainable trend, since in 2021 the country as a whole had a negative migration balance of 6946 people, which was formed as a result of the influx of the urban population due to the outflow of the rural population. In the regional context, the influx of the population was carried out mainly in the three megacities of the republic, and the outflow of the population occurred mainly from the Turkestan, Zhetysuy and Zhambyl regions, mainly agricultural regions, which cannot but significantly affect the indicators of the agricultural production of the country as a whole.

In general, the increase in the population, despite the high degree of emigration of the population, occurred due to the positive dynamics of natural growth.



Source: Author's illustration for data of Table 1.

Figure 2. Structure of the urban population by region in 2021

The indicators of natural population growth in the republic as a whole and for the urban population are almost equal - about 1.38%, although the rural population has traditionally been characterized by higher birth rates (1.49%).

In the regional context, when analyzing the share of the urban population, the following situation has developed, reflected in Figure 2, which shows the share of the urban population in the country.

If megacities (Almaty, Nur-Sultan and Shymkent) are excluded from the general list of regions, then the maximum share of the urban population falls on the Karaganda region - the largest industrial region in which the cities of Karaganda, Temirtau, Shakhtinsk, Satpaev, etc. are located. It should be noted that in terms of regions, the urban population, in addition to the three megacities, is concentrated in regional and district centers, and industrial single-industry towns. But it must be emphasized that the communal infrastructure of many single-industry towns cannot cope with the needs of the city, an example of which is the accidents in the utility networks of the city of Yeibastuz, when a large industrial city was left without heating in the winter season. This was due to depreciation of fixed assets and a low level of renewal of fixed assets.



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Indicators of urbanization and equipment of fixed assets are shown in Table 1. So, in the same Kostanay region, to which the city of Ekibastuz is attached as an administrative unit, the depreciation rate of fixed assets is 37.8%, and only 12.5% of the total value of fixed assets has been updated. But these indicators are not the most deplorable. The worst indicators, oddly enough, are in the capital of the Republic, where the provision of financing for urban infrastructure should be a priority for strategic reasons.

The level of urbanization, as a rule, is the highest in the industrial regions (Karaganda, Pavlodar, Aktobe, and East Kazakhstan regions), which is almost twice the national figure.

*Table 1.  
Indicators of urbanization, depreciation and renewal of fixed assets and population*

Regions	Depreciation of fixed assets (in per cent) *	Degree of renewal of fixed assets (in per cent) *	Level of urbanization by regions (percentage)**	Share of gross regional product, in percentages ***	The share of the population of the region, in per cent ****
The Republic of Kazakhstan		8		100,0	100
Akmola	44,1		57,4		
Aktobe	28,6	17,1	47,3	3,2	4
Almaty	52,0	14,4	69,7	4,2	5
Atyrau	22,9	10,3	22,25	5,3	11
Western Kazakhstan	44,3	5,4	51,2	11,0	3
Zhambyl	46,2	5,5	51,6	3,9	4
Karaganda	32,1	13	39,55	2,7	6
Kostanay	38,8	11,4	79,7	8,6	7
Kyzylorda	37,8	12,5	54,8	4,1	5
Mangystau	49,1	5,3	43,8	2,3	4
Pavlodar	48,7	7,7	38,8	4,3	4
Northern Kazakhstan	37,5	7	70,7	4,4	5
Turkestan	32,8	15,6	46,0	2,2	3
Eastern Kazakhstan	28,3	16,2	19,3	3,4	11
Nur-Sultan	32,5	10,3	62,0	6,5	7
Almaty city	62,3	8	95,0	11,3	6
Shymkent city	33,9	17,1	97,0	19,1	10
	26,5	14,4	97,2	3,5	6

Sources:

\*- statistical data of the Statistical Compilation "Kazakhstan's Fixed Assets", 2017-2021 (data for 2020)

\*\* authors' calculations according to table 1

\*\*\* - statistical data of the collection "Regions of Kazakhstan" for 2020

\*\*\*\* Authors' calculations according to the statistical collection Regions of Kazakhstan, 2020.

The lowest rate of urbanization took place in the Turkestan region, whose population was almost 14% of the total population of the country. A slightly higher level of urbanization was noted in the Almaty region, whose share of the population was 14%. It should be emphasized that the Almaty region was divided in 2022 and the Zhetysu region was separated from it. Such a division did not occur in the Turkestan region, despite the fact that the region has the highest population density among the regions compared to other regions. But the process of dividing the regions was not associated with demographic indicators, but with general economic tasks located on the territory of the region and based on the requirements of the economic revival of regions for which the processes of territorial administration were difficult at considerable distances.

Issues of the influence of urbanization processes and the level of industrialization can be assessed on the basis of the correlation dependence between indicators of depreciation and renewal of fixed assets.

The correlation coefficient between indicators of the level of urbanization and the degree of depreciation of fixed assets indicates a high dependence and relationship of indicators - according to our calculations, it is 0.445, which indicates a close relationship between urbanization and industrialization of the economy. The correlation between the indicators of urbanization and the renewal of fixed assets is even greater; it is 0.97. At the same time, such a high degree of correlation between the processes of urbanization and indicators of the state of use of fixed assets is not a sufficiently significant indicator in strengthening further urbanization and the distribution of productive forces. The correlation between the indicators of urbanization and the share of GRP of each region in the total GRP of the Republic of Kazakhstan showed a lower degree of interdependence than the degree of depreciation and even lower than the coefficient of renewal of fixed assets. The correlation coefficient for GRP was only 0.385.

The population density of the Republic of Kazakhstan is one of the smallest 7 people per sq. km, 183rd place out of 195 countries. RF 8.56 less than in Turkmenistan - 10.6. Recipients of urban migration were mainly the cities of Almaty, Nur-Sultan, Shymkent and the Turkestan region. At the same time, the Turkestan and East Kazakhstan regions were also leaders in rural migration, a positive balance of rural migration was observed only in the oil-producing regions: Mangystau and Atyrau regions. For the Republic of Kazakhstan, these issues are of the most crucial importance, since the territory of the country is one of the largest in the world.

In terms of land per capita, Kazakhstan ranks third in the world after Australia and Canada. The size of the land area per inhabitant of the country is 17.03 hectares per person, including the provision of arable land - 1.51 hectares per person. For comparison, similar figures in other countries are, respectively: Russia - 11.6 and 0.89, USA - 3.8 and 0.75, China - 0.8 and 0.08, Japan - 0.31 and 0.03 ha per person. Some justification for the low efficiency of the use of arable land can be the fact that most of the land of the Republic belongs to the zone of risky farming, and historically Kazakhstani land was used mainly as pasture.

The efficiency of the use of the land fund is closely related to the growth of urbanization processes. In the Republic of Kazakhstan, systematic work is under way to resettle the population from the southern regions with a relatively high population density to the northern regions, where natural conditions are favorable for agricultural work.

The level of industrial development is one of the determining factors of urbanization. Migration processes, both internal, inter-regional and external, associated with the influx from abroad for various reasons, socio-economic, political processes, emergency situations (natural disasters, military-political conflicts, etc.) have a serious influence on the development of urbanization processes, which causes instability of socio-economic processes and poses a certain threat to the national security of the country with a high degree of risk. Taking into account the degree of risk can be carried out by taking preventive measures in the form of state programs for optimizing the deployment of productive forces, and by preparing appropriate measures to protect national security.

## **2. Results - Model Estimation and Analysis**

Our analysis shows a high degree of differentiation of urbanization processes in Kazakhstan and their high relationship with the processes of industrialization, migration and economic growth. A brief review of the state of urbanization processes shows that urbanization mainly covers large cities, for regional centers such phenomena are not so significant.

According to the researchers of Uzbekistan, since one of the reasons for the accelerated development of the economy of the People's Republic of China is urbanization, then, in their opinion, it is necessary to activate these processes for their country as well. But, in our opinion, the need for accelerated urbanization is not as relevant for Kazakhstan as it is for our

neighbors. So, when comparing the population density of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, we can conclude that the acceleration of urbanization processes for our country can lead to further degradation of rural settlements. In our opinion, urbanization can be considered not only as an enhanced development of megacities, but as a systematic rational urban planning policy in relation to large, medium and small cities.

Urbanization as a purposeful policy of the state with powerful centralized management has brought positive effects for China and will have the same effect for Uzbekistan. But for Kazakhstan, with its export-oriented economy and developed mining and metallurgical complex, urbanization gives rise to a further increase in the differentiation of the living standards of the population of the city and the countryside, and social segregation of society.

Currently, urbanization processes are spontaneous and create additional problems for urban infrastructure and cause an increase in social problems. These include: lack of housing, kindergartens, schools, medical facilities, cultural facilities, not to mention the additional burden on housing and communal services. In addition to the socio-economic problems created by unmanaged urbanization and the lag of urban management structures in solving these problems, there are also problems of the risk of a criminogenic situation. The sad experience of the existence of cities surrounded by slums, spontaneous development, lack or shortage of jobs cause an increase in criminogenic attitudes, especially among young people.

Migration to large cities is carried out mainly in the service sector, in the sector of non-professional construction, in trade, mainly where high qualifications are not required. Specialists' brain drain abroad, unfortunately, has a negative growth trend, one of the motives for which is the lack of demand for the labor market, and low wages, as well as social factors (lack of housing, kindergartens, etc.). Modern cities, in our opinion, basically absorb the human personality, do not allow the development of creativity. Stone jungles, dense buildings, limited natural space and other negative attributes of the urban environment are an obstacle to the spiritual and harmonious development of the individual.

The existing processes of urbanization for megacities create additional problems of social adaptation for new arrivals. Stopping or streamlining the processes of population migration are urgent tasks and their solution lies on the surface. It is necessary to develop and restore small towns and villages. The mass closure of the so-called unpromising villages and settlements will lead to an even greater lag in the economy of the republic and a decrease in the standard of living of the population. Rural entrepreneurship should be

based on the immeasurably greater possibilities of the natural environment than the urban environment.

In our opinion, the indicated stages of urbanization that are given above are distinguished on the basis of practical experience, i.e. history of urban development, and certain forecasts were made, that is, already in the second half of the 20th century, in world practice there was a tendency to stop the further growth of cities. In Kazakhstan, the process of counterurbanization has not yet begun, as the process of formation of the economy despite some facts of a slowdown in urbanization.

### **3. Discussion and Conclusions**

Urbanization provides obvious advantages and opportunities for business development, consisting in the concentration of potential consumers, the presence of demand for a more diverse range of goods and services which leads to the activation of production and the search for new development niches, as well as in the accumulation of human, financial and information resources and at the same time bears many risks to regional development in terms of disproportionate development of urban agglomerations and regions. In addition, the urban environment contributes to the development of entire sectors of the economy: the construction sector, utility infrastructure, metallurgy, engineering, automotive, services, banking, information technology, the media, etc. The work of Edward Gleger can be called the apotheosis of the city as an engine of progress: "The triumph of the city as our greatest invention makes us richer, smarter, greener, healthier and happier. Such a panegyric on the city as an engine of progress is opposed to a return to nature according to Jean-Jacques Rousseau. The struggle between human aspirations to merge with nature and urbanization has been going on throughout the history of civilization.

Urbanization should be based on the development of productive potential and raising the level of industrial development of the country's economy. An important issue for Kazakhstan is the development of cities and the disclosure of their opportunities in terms of professional growth of the population of cities, the systematic development of regions and the structural modernization of the economy. The level of industrial development is one of the determining factors of urbanization. Migration processes, both internal, inter-regional, and external, associated with the influx from abroad for various reasons, socio-economic, political processes, emergency situations (natural disasters, military-political



conflicts, etc.) have a serious influence on the development of urbanization processes, which causes instability of socio-economic processes and poses a certain threat to the national security of the country with a high degree of risk. Taking into account the degree of risk can be carried out by taking preventive measures in the form of state programs for optimizing the deployment of productive forces, and by preparing local measures to protect national security. We can draw certain conclusions that further urbanization for Kazakhstan may pose some threat due to the relatively low population density and the decrease in the population of remote settlements and uncontrolled migration of the population, and as a result, the deterioration of the socio-economic situation of the inhabitants of these regions.

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Table 1.  
On the updated population of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the beginning of 2022 (persons)

Regions	Number at the beginning of 2021	Total population growth	Including		Number at the beginning of 2022
			natural increase	in migration balance	
The Republic of Kazakhstan	19 503 159	261 845	268 791	-6 946	19 765 004
Abay region	611 888	-1 699	5 364	-7 063	610 189
Akmola	785 708	2 263	4 351	-2 088	787 971
Aktobe	916 750	11 435	13 686	-2 251	928 185
Almaty	1 478 496	27 488	25 582	1 906	1 505 984
Atyrau	681 241	11 799	13 554	-1 755	693 040
West Kazakhstan	683 327	4 764	6 977	-2 213	688 091
Zhambyl	1 209 665	8 290	19 315	-11 025	1 217 955
Zhetysu region	698 757	-82	9 104	-9 186	698 675
Karaganda	1 134 966	-213	5 236	-5 449	1 134 753
Kostanay	835 686	-3 576	1 352	-4 928	832 110
Kyzylorda	823 251	10 280	16 120	-5 840	833 531
Mangistau	745 909	21 047	18 477	2 570	766 956
Pavlodar	756 511	-1 608	3 100	-4 708	754 903
North Kazakhstan	539 111	-5 087	-444	-4 643	534 024
Turkestan	2 088 510	30 553	48 307	-17 754	2 119 063
Ulytau region	220 913	482	2 590	-2 108	221 395
East Kazakhstan	732 966	-2 794	947	-3 741	730 172
Urban population					
The Republic of Kazakhstan	11 151 376	202 476	146 421	56 055	11 353 852
Akmola	349 320	54	1 521	-1 467	349 374
Aktobe	640 960	11 186	10 875	311	652 146
Almaty	455 085	4 414	7 281	-2 867	459 499
Atyrau	357 787	5 223	7 195	-1 972	363 010
West Kazakhstan	348 278	3 730	3 572	158	352 008
Zhambyl	454 055	6 120	8 087	-1 967	460 175
Karaganda	1 099 620	-1 525	4 305	-5 830	1 098 095
Kostanay	504 909	-238	-546	308	504 671
Kyzylorda	364 939	7 187	8 397	-1 210	372 126
Mangistau	287 713	10 989	7 284	3 705	298 702
Pavlodar	530 225	-1 959	737	-2 696	528 266
North Kazakhstan	253 204	-720	-913	193	252 484
Turkestan	417 674	16 019	13 630	2 389	433 693
East Kazakhstan	851 472	1 057	2 894	-1 837	852 529
Nur-Sultan	1 184 411	55 333	24 427	30 906	1 239 744
Almaty city	1 977 258	47 603	19 702	27 901	2 024 861
Shymkent	1 074 466	38 003	27 973	10 030	1 112 469

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASPECTS AND RISKS OF URBANIZATION ...

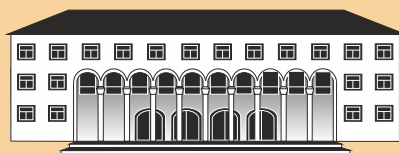
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		Rural population			
The Republic of Kazakhstan	7 511 921	44 824	111 826	-67 002	7 556 745
Abai Region	243 324	-3 862	1 704	-5 566	239 462
Akmolinskaya	347 501	-1 517	1 702	-3 219	345 984
Aktobe	235 615	88	3 319	-3 231	235 703
Almaty	1 237 435	24 726	22 360	2 366	1 262 161
Atyrau	305 185	5 442	5 992	-550	310 627
West Kazakhstan	301 054	322	2 992	-2 670	301 376
Zhambylskaya	687 722	3 457	11 362	-7 905	691 179
Zhetisu Region	389 516	-1 383	4 965	-6 348	388 133
Karaganda	214 951	-2 516	1 316	-3 832	212 435
Kostanay	322 458	-5 500	272	-5 772	316 958
Kyzylorda	437 687	4 736	8 294	-3 558	442 423
Mangystau	409 801	10 251	10 604	-353	420 052
Pavlodar	223 312	-1 279	1 079	-2 358	222 033
Northern Kazakhstan	279 968	-4 836	-239	-4 597	275 132
Turkestan	1 579 918	19 991	35 355	-15 364	1 599 909
Ulytau region	46 424	-96	626	-722	46 328
East Kazakhstan	250 050	-3 200	123	-3 323	246 850

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