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## **CENSUS IS THE IMPORTANT SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON THE POPULATION OF KAZAKHSTAN**

### **Abstract**

At present, Kazakhstan is preparing for the next population census. The organization and holding of a large-scale event is expensive, but, nevertheless, very valuable for the state. The population census is an important informational material. The information received during the census gives an opportunity for an in-depth study of the national characteristics of the state and is the basis for many socio-economic studies and demographic forecasting. As part of Kazakhstan's digitalization, the Committee on Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan plans to conduct the upcoming census in a new format using modern technology via the Internet and portable computing devices (tablets), which should simplify both the census procedure and the processing of the received data. The number of questions in the questionnaire will increase to 45. The article is devoted to theoretical problems of census as one of the ways of population accounting: history, methodology, methods of conducting and generalizing the results. The procedure for carrying out population censuses in the USSR and the Republic of Kazakhstan is disclosed. As a result of the analysis of the scientific literature on the international experience of population accounting, the authors note the most modern methods of population censuses in foreign countries, consider the specifics of their preparation, conduct and summarizing.

Key words: population, census, accounting, program, information, national features, methodology, data processing.

The forthcoming national population census in Kazakhstan plays an important socio-economic and demographic significance. After the last 1989 of the all-union population census of Kazakhstan as a sovereign state, the first census of the population, according to UN recommendations, was held 10 years later, in 1999. From the former Soviet republics of the USSR, Azerbaijan, Belarus, and Kyrgyzstan were held the same year.

The population census has a long history and initially the account had a fiscal purpose. For example, there is information about population accounting in China more than four thousand years ago during the Xia dynasty era. According to some sources, the United States (1790), Great Britain and France (1801) became the first ones to begin the regular population counting in primitive forms. The first census, meeting the scientific principles of population accounting, was held in Belgium in 1846 under the leadership of the well-known statistics A. Quetelet. The need to maintain population records and cognitive statistics was accompanied by reforms and transformations, the emergence of a new type of statistical work aimed at obtaining a variety of statistical data on the state of demographic and socio-economic life. Since that time, international statistical congresses were started on which general principles and contents of censuses were developed and recommendations were made to governments on the procedure for their implementation [1].

On the territory of Kazakhstan, the history of the population census begins with the introduction of the principles of the unified state statistics of the Russian Empire in 1897. During this period, cardinal changes took place, the population census programs became more extensive than previous programs, each of which had its own peculiarities, sometimes even tragic ones (1937 and 1939), nevertheless contributed to the history as well as to the development of the state [2, p. 292]. The following population censuses in Kazakhstan were conducted in 1926, 1937 (1939), 1959, 1970, 1989, 1999, 2009.

In the process of research, methods of theoretical investigation, in particular, synthesis, analysis, deduction and induction, were used, as well as on the basis of a logical, systemic approach and a method of comparing statistical calculations.

Despite the variety of scientific publications and works devoted to the population census, in the process of research they are mostly descriptive, or researchers conduct an assessment of ethnic and demographic processes. Scientific and practical interest is represented by works published in the electronic bulletin "Demoscope Weekly".

The population census is an expensive exercise, but still one of the most important sources of information about the population, representing a scientifically-organized process of collecting, processing and analyzing data on the size and composition of the population. On the basis of the information received, an assessment is made of changes in population and demographic characteristics, as well as socioeconomic parameters for the intercensal period, a base is prepared for future calculations, and information on current accounting is adjusted [2].

However, the population census has its advantages and disadvantages. For example, the president of the research center "Political Analyst" M. Tulsy notes that "despite the existence of sufficiently detailed statistics on the population in most countries of the former USSR, population censuses show that in most countries the current population count leaves much to be desired. Therefore, previously published data are now being adjusted in national statistical committees on the basis of new census results" [3]. So, in the monograph "practical demography", the authors point out that the scale of the discrepancies between the population census and the current account can vary. Inaccuracies in information are possible due to incomplete coverage of the population by registration, and poor-quality answers when filling in questionnaires [4, p. 28].

The first and only general census of the Russian Empire was conducted in 1897 on a single program and general instructions. The program consisted of 14 questions. So, 4147,8 thousand people lived on these materials, the main ethnic groups were Kazakhs (81,8%) and Russians (11%). However, the people participated in the census without enthusiasm, underestimated the number of children in the family, and distorted the age. According to the demographer MB. Tatimova underestimation of the number of Kazakhs according to the census of 1897 amounted to 10%, and in 1926 – 6% [1].

The First All-Union Population Census of 1926, with an extensive census program, included a personal leaflet, a family card, a checked list in towns and a settled list of householders in rural areas, additional forms for Kazakh farms with many ethnographic and socioeconomic issues.

Compared with 1897, in Kazakhstan, according to census data of 1926, the population increased almost 1.5 times mainly due to the unorganized inflow of migrants from the Russian and Ukrainian peasantry, workers and craftsmen from the interior provinces of Russia, as well as from Central Asia [5].

The Second All-Union Population Census of 1937 was carried out in the days of Stalinist repression and is therefore interpreted in many sources as a "shot census". Since the data obtained from the results of these censuses, Stalin recognized as "wrecking" and ordered to be classified, and the leaders and many ordinary census executors were exiled to the camp or shot.

In the history of Soviet statistics, the 1937 census became an example of unscientific and unreliable data "[6]. The main mistake was the reduction in the duration of the census, which was accompanied by an increase in the load on the counters. The census program was also shortened, distorted and unsuccessfully formulated questions in the forms of the questionnaire, which confused the population in the answers. The study of surviving archival documents by demographers made it possible to find out that the current estimates of the population size were greatly exaggerated, and the materials of the 1937 census gave me scant data on the national composition. The population of the KazSSR was 5126,7 thousand people, of which the proportion of Kazakhs was 42,6%, Russian – 37,4%, Ukrainians – 10,7%.

Therefore, in 1939, another census of the population of the USSR was conducted. The census program contained 16 items, but did not refute the results obtained in 1937, so the results of 1939. "Corrected", overestimated the number of residents, census sheets of detainees distributed in small portions throughout the country, many towns were named cities. The population in the territory of Kazakhstan according to the population census of 1939 was 6093,5 thousand people. The number of Kazakhs decreased from 3,627,600 in 1926 up to 2327,6 thousand people (ie by 35,8%) in 1939. From history it is known why the number of Kazakhs declined in those years: confiscation of baisk farms, dekulakization and resettlement of wealthy peasants and Kazakh sharoans, terrible famine.

Due to the migration influx, the number of other ethnic groups increased to 50 nationalities. However, Russians (40,2%) and Ukrainians (10,8%) together accounted for more than half of

Kazakhstan's population. Representatives of ethnic groups with more than 10 thousand people represented: Mordovians, Jews, Azerbaijanis, Tajiks [7].

The first postwar population census in order to hide the true extent of losses in the war and the consequences of Stalin's repression was carried out only 20 years later, in 1959, The Great Patriotic War changed a lot in the methods of organization and programs of statistical work. For the first time the development of materials was completely mechanized and carried out centrally. The total population in the territory of Kazakhstan is 9303,8 thousand people (Table 1), the Kazakh population according to the census in 1959 amounted to 2,795,0 thousand people, that is, increased by only 474 thousand people or 20%, the number of Russians has increased by 62%, the number of Tatars by 79%, of Uzbeks by 32%, of Byelorussians – by 3,4 times, of Uighurs by 69%, and the number of other nationalities by 2,6 times [8].

Table 1 – Population of census data

Years of Population Censuses	Total population, persons	Population change (increase +, decrease –)	Urban population, persons	The rural population, persons
1959	9 303 801	3 210 294	4 138 651	5 165 150
1970	13 026 274	3 722 473	6 636 116	6 390 158
1979	14 709 508	1 683 234	7 980 457	6 729 051
1989	16 222 324	1 512 816	9 259 000	6 963 324
1999	14 981 281	–1 241 043	8 455 783	6 525 498
2009	16 009 597	1 028 316	8 662 432	7 347 165

Note – Source: [8]

The 1970 census was carried out according to a program of 11 questions for the entire population and 7 more questions, for which 25% of the population was sampled in order to save time and money. Materials for the 1970 census were obtained more, although in organizational and methodological terms it corresponded to the censuses of 1939 and 1959. The goals and objectives of the population census were widely explained to people through the media, lectures were given in clubs. According to the 1970 census, 1,302,300 people lived in KazSSR. The number of Kazakhs increased to 4234,2 thousand people. In total, 5,298,8 thousand Kazakhs lived on the territory of the USSR. The number of urban population compared to the data of 1959 increased by almost 40% due to the rapid growth of urbanization [8].

In the 1979 census, a fundamentally new form of the questionnaire was used out of 16 questions, 11 questions were received from the census as a whole, and 5 questions were selected by a selective method from 25% of the permanent population. The program clarified the wording of the question about the age by the year of birth and the number of years that were completed, and also the data on the number of children born by a woman were also taken into account for the first time. For the processing of materials, computers were used, the results obtained were printed in the form of a table. The total population of the KazSSR, according to the 1979 census, is 14709,5 thousand people. According to the 1979 census, “the average age of residents of Kazakhstan against the background of the entire population of the USSR was relatively young (in the USSR it was 32,7 years, in Kazakhstan it was 27,7 years in 1979 ...).

In 1989, the last census of the Soviet Union was conducted. Its peculiarity is that 7 questions on housing conditions were included in the questionnaire in accordance with the UN Economic and Social Council resolution adopted in 2005 on the World Program of Population and Housing Censuses. The topic of migration and the place of birth were expanded. The program contained 25 questions, some of the program's questions were asked selectively.

The population according to the 1989 census increased in comparison with the previous census by 1512,8 thousand people. Within the USSR, the percentage of the indigenous ethnoses in Kazakhstan was 40,1% in 1989, and in 1979 – 36%.

The first national census of the population of independent Kazakhstan in 1999 was conducted through a survey of the population by interviewers on the so-called usual place of residence: a

settlement, a house, an apartment, a room. The census was conducted according to a single program, not using a selective method, the cash and permanent population were taken into account.

According to the 1999 census, the total population in our republic decreased by 8% compared to the previous one and almost returned to the level of 1979. The national spectrum was represented by 130 nationalities. The census recorded for the first time in many decades the growth of the indigenous ethnic group and a significant decrease in such large diasporas as the Russian, German, Ukrainian, Belarusian. A powerful migration outflow, urbanization, the emancipation of women and their increasing involvement in social production, which resulted in a reduction in the birth rate of the population, led to a decrease in the population in the republic. «The structure of the illegal immigrants is unknown, and the reasons for their entry into Kazakhstan far from factors specific to natural migration. Because of ignorance of the number of illegal migrants, there is no information about their qualifications, nationality, age, gender, etc. As it is known, the problem of migration belongs to the most complex area of human relationships» [11].

In the 2009 Census program, on the recommendation of the UN Statistical Commission, Eurostat, UNECE, the CIS Stat Committee, new issues were included: – religion; – date of first marriage;

- ♦ computer literacy;
- ♦ the approximate amount of income and the frequency of its receipt;
- ♦ the methods of arrival and the time spent on the road to the place of work/study;
- ♦ the date of birth of the first child and the planned number of children;
- ♦ state of health of the population;
- ♦ Accommodation 1 year or more in other countries;
- ♦ the year of construction of the structure and the materials of the external walls of the buildings.

Scanners were used to process the census data.

According to the census materials, the number of permanent residents in Kazakhstan amounted to 1,6009,600 people. The population growth in comparison with the 1999 census was 6,9%. Of the 125 nations and nationalities, the main ethnic group of Kazakhstan is represented by 7 ethnic groups: Kazakhs, Russians, Uzbeks, Ukrainians, Uighurs, Tatars and Germans, who account for 95,6% of the country's population. The increase in the number of Kazakhs (63,1% of the total population) for the intercensal period occurred mainly due to natural growth, as well as migratory influx of oralmans into the territory of the republic.

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The census is the main source of information about the demographic, ethnolinguistic, socio-economic characteristics of the population.

In 2019, Kazakhstan is expected to conduct another population census. Organizational and methodological preparatory activities are currently being conducted, including the development of census programs, the selection and training of census staff in all regions of the country, and the organization of large-scale outreach activities for all sections of the population about the principles and methods of the census program. A methodical recommendation on organizing the National Population Census of Kazakhstan in 2018–2022 was published,.

In many countries of Western Europe, scribes distribute questionnaires to the public and then collect them after filling out. In the East of Europe, the questionnaire is usually filled in by the scribe himself. In some countries, questionnaires are sent and (or) returned by mail, in 2011, 13 European countries provided an opportunity to complete a census questionnaire on the Internet [10].

Given the previous and international experience of conducting population censuses, the use of the Internet and the wider use of GIS – technologies would improve the methodology and technology for collecting and processing the materials of the forthcoming census in Kazakhstan.



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### Аңдатпа

Қазақстан қазіргі уақытта келесі санақ бойынша дайындалуда. Іс-шараны ұйымдастыру және өткізу қымбат, бірақ, соған қарамастан, мемлекет үшін өте құнды. Халық санағы маңызды ақпараттық материал болып табылады. Санақ жүргізу барысында алынған ақпарат мемлекеттің ұлттық сипаттамаларын терең зерттеуге мүмкіндік береді және көптеген әлеуметтік-экономикалық зерттеулер мен демографиялық болжаудың негізі болып табылады. ҚР Статистика комитеті Қазақстанның цифрландыру шеңберінде қазіргі заманғы технологияларды пайдалана отырып, интернет және портативті есептегіш құрылғылар (планшеттер) арқылы алдағы санақты жаңа форматта өткізуді жоспарлап отыр, бұл санақ процедурасын және алынған деректерді өңдеуді жеңілдетуі керек. Санақ парағындағы сұрақтар саны 45-ге дейін артады. Мақала халық санағының тәсілдерінің бірі ретінде санақтың теориялық мәселелеріне арналған: тарихы, әдістемесі, әдістері мен нәтижелерін елдерде қолдану. КСРО мен Қазақстан Республикасында халық санағын жүргізу тәртібі ашылды. Халықты есепке алудың халықаралық тәжірибесіндегі ғылыми әдебиеттерді талдау нәтижесінде авторлар оларды дайындаудың, жүргізудің және қорытындылаудың ерекшеліктерін ескере отырып, шет елдердегі халық санағының ең заманауи әдістерін атап өтеді.

Тірек сөздер: халық, санақ, есепке алу, бағдарлама, ақпарат, ұлттық ерекшеліктер, әдістеме, деректерді өңдеу.

### Аннотация

В настоящее время Казахстан готовится к очередной переписи населения. Организация и проведение переписи – масштабное мероприятие, дорогостоящее, но тем не менее очень ценное для государства. Перепись населения является важным информационным материалом. Полученная в ходе переписи информация дает возможность углубленного изучения национальных особенностей государства и является основой для многих социально-экономических исследований и демографического прогнозирования. В рамках цифровизации Казахстана Комитет по статистике РК предстоящую перепись населения планирует проводить в новом формате – с применением современной технологии посредством сети интернет и портативно-вычислительных устройств (планшетов), что должно упростить как саму процедуру переписи, так и процесс обработки полученных данных. Число вопросов в переписных листах увеличится до 45. Статья посвящена теоретическим проблемам переписи как одного из способов учета населения: истории, методологии, методов проведения и обобщения результатов. Раскрыт порядок проведения переписи населения в СССР и Республике Казахстан. В результате анализа научной литературы о международном опыте учета населения авторы отмечают наиболее современные методы переписи населения в зарубежных странах, рассматривают особенности их подготовки, проведения и подведения итогов.

Ключевые слова: население, перепись, учет, программа, информация, национальные особенности, методология, обработка данных.