

## THE KEY TRENDS IN POPULATION GROWTH IN THE CITIES OF KHIRDALAN, KHIZI AND SUMGAYIT

Saleh G. Nagiyev, Shafa M. Ramazanova

*Baku State University, 33, Z. Khalilov str. AZ 1148 Baku, Azerbaijan*

<https://doi.org/10.30546/209805.2026.3.2.3078>

---

### Abstract

The formation and development of urban settlements in the Absheron-Khizi economic region, as well as the dynamics of urban development by administrative districts, are analyzed.

The study of demographic potential in the region's metropolitan areas reveals that, in recent years, natural growth and a decline in the dynamics of births and marriages have been observed. Proposals and recommendations are presented for addressing the demographic development issues of cities in the region, along with the direction for their solution.

The article presents a comprehensive study of the demographic research in the city of Sumgayit during the period of research operations (1989-2024). These research operations were not just a routine exercise, but a significant undertaking that has provided valuable insights into the demographic dynamics and their impact on economic development. The demographic indicators of the Absheron-Khizi economic cities are determined in relation to general urban calculations, and the methods for solving the identified problems are justified.

**Keywords:** *urban settlement; urbanization; demographic processes; natural growth; migration.*

---

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: [naqiyevsaleh@mail.ru](mailto:naqiyevsaleh@mail.ru) (S. Nagiyev)

[shafa\\_00@mail.ru](mailto:shafa_00@mail.ru) (Sh. Ramazanova)

### INTRODUCTION

Regional development policy plays a vital role within a country's broader socio-economic strategy. Among the key internal factors shaping national development priorities are the establishment of balanced and socially advantageous regional structures, as well as the improvement of employment levels and living conditions across different areas. Such a policy is expected to stimulate the expansion of production and service sectors, increase income levels, and enhance the well-being of the local population. Ultimately, these measures help address unemployment, encourage people to remain in their home regions, and reduce migration flows [1].

The geodemographic conditions and regulations of urban settlement development in the Absheron-Khizi economic region are a distinct aspect of the country's sustainable socio-economic policy. To create a more efficient organization of production and population across territories, we need to focus on better planning and resource allocation. It is necessary to study the demographic conditions of cities. Geodemographic conditions reflect the natural movement of the population, its structure, and the

regularities of its placement. Currently, 90% of the population and the majority of the socio-economic potential of the Absheron-Khizi economic region are concentrated in urban areas[6].

The location of most of Azerbaijan's industrial potential and related infrastructure facilities in Baku and the Absheron-Khizi economic region, as well as the weakening or complete cessation of activities at many enterprises, production, and service facilities in the areas, accelerated the flow of population to the country's capital and Absheron. These factors, in turn, hurt the regional development of the economy, leading to an increase in the gap between regional development and aggravating the socio-economic, demographic, and environmental situations in many places [7].

This required the effective utilization of the existing potential to enhance the socio-economic development of the regions and reduce the gap between them. Considering the existing problems, numerous state programs are being implemented in this direction. The achievements resulting from the implementation of adopted state programs have led to positive changes, and the differences in socio-economic development between regions are gradually decreasing.

Compared to other cities in the country, the population in the economic region is growing quickly. Due to natural increase and migration, changes population size, gender, job types make demographic problems in cities worse. To solve these issues, migration in the highly urbanized cities of Sumgayit and Khirdalan should be controlled, employment problems need to be fixed, and serious steps should be taken in this direction.

It is very important to carry out scientific studies and create a state-level action plan based on their results. This plan will be key in tackling the challenges faced in the demographic development of urban areas.

#### **Material and method.**

The characteristics of urban population growth in Azerbaijan and the factors affecting it have been studied by A.M. Hajizadeh, V.A. Efendiyev, Sh.G. Demirgayayev, E.G. Mehraliyev, and others, including N.H. Ayyubov, S.G. Naghiyev, Z.N. Eminov, Z.T. Imrani, E.S. Badalov, R.N. Karimov, and more scientists [14].

The study was based on census data from 1999 and 2009, plus statistical indicators from 2000 to 2025. To reach the goal, comparative analysis, system-structural analysis, historical-geographical analysis, and statistical methods were used. The work included both a broad analysis of the total urban population and a detailed, comparative study [11].

#### **Results and Discussion.**

The Absheron–Khizi economic region ranks third in total population among the country's 14 economic regions and second in urban population. As of early 2025, it accounted for 8.6% of the national population and 13.6% of all urban residents. Though it has only three cities and 13 settlements, it still holds a large part of the country's urban population. Most cities in this region appeared recently, mainly because of Soviet-era industrial growth. Sumgayit became a city in 1949, which led to new urban development. It quickly became one of the nation's main industrial centers. Its population grew 4.4 times between 1959 and 1989—from 51.5 thousand to 231.1 thousand people. During that period, two settlements merged into the city and also grew fast. Haji Zeynalabdin grew from 2.5 thousand to 7.8 thousand people, tripling in size, while Jorat increased from 5.4 thousand to 16.4 thousand, about 3.1 times. Both settlements officially became recognized in 1937–1938 [7]. Based on the decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan SSR dated January 4, 1963, the Absheron district was established, with its center in the settlement of Khirdalan. In 1936, Khirdalan was given the status of a settlement, and on October 2, 2006, it was promoted to city status. By this decree, 462 ha (208 ha from the settlement of Sulutapa 254 ha from the settlement of May 28) of Binagadi district territory

bordering the city were added to the town. The master plan for Khirdalan was prepared in 2011 and approved in 2013. According to the plan, the total area of the town is 1702 ha. There were 20 industrial enterprises in the city. In 1991, Khizi district was established, and Khizi village was given settlement status. It also became the district center, and in 2008, the settlement was promoted to city status [5].

**Table 1**  
**Growth trends and population density of the urban areas in the region.**

| Years | Economic region population (in thousand people) |       | Share of population by country (%) |                     | Urbanization level % |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|       | Total                                           | Urban | on the general population          | By urban population |                      |
| 1989  | 334,4                                           | 309,6 | 4,8                                | 8,1                 | 92,6                 |
| 1999  | 378,1                                           | 349,0 | 4,8                                | 8,6                 | 92,3                 |
| 2009  | 513,9                                           | 474,3 | 5,8                                | 10,0                | 92,3                 |
| 2019  | 866,8                                           | 746,7 | 8,7                                | 13,7                | 86,1                 |
| 2024  | 878,4                                           | 755,9 | 8,6                                | 13,6                | 86,1                 |

*Source: Demographic indicators of Azerbaijan, Baku: SSC. 2024*

The majority of the population of the Republic of Azerbaijan lives in the city of Sumgayit and the Absheron region, where the population growth during the two decades of the end of the Soviet era and the period of independence increased by 1.9 times and 2.1 times, respectively, in 1970-1989, and by 1.3 times and 1.5 times in 1989-2009. The urban population growth in the region experienced significant changes over the years. From 1989 to 1999, the growth rate was 12.7%. This rate increased to 35.9% from 1999 to 2009, surpassing the previous decade [18]. Between 2009 and 2019, the growth rate further escalated to 57.4%. However, from 2019 to 2024, the growth rate decreased markedly to just 1.2%.. Currently, the proportion of the region's urban population in the country has increased by 1.8 times since 2019, compared to the previous 20 years, and by 1.6 times in 2019, in terms of both the total population and the urban population (Table 1) [19].

The administrative district with the lowest urban population share in the region is Khizi, while the areas with the highest urban population share are Sumgayit city and the Absheron region. The large number of villages and settlements, physical and geographical features, and the fact that they have been under the influence of Baku for a long time are factors that positively impact the level of urbanization. The city with the highest urban population share in the region is Sumgayit, which has a 48.7% share, while Khirdalan has a relatively low share of 22.3%. Sumgayit city's share in the region's urban population was 56.6%, and Khirdalan's was 25.9 [6]. (Table 2).

**Table 2**  
**Dynamics of Population Growth in Cities (in thousands of people)**

| No |  | 1989 | 1999 | 2009 | 2019 | 2024 |  |
|----|--|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|----|--|------|------|------|------|------|--|

|    |           |       |       |       |       |       | Percentage of urban population in region's by 2024. % |
|----|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Sumgayit  | 230,5 | 256,8 | 309,5 | 422,6 | 427,6 | 100%                                                  |
| 2. | Khirdalan | 28,3  | 28,6  | 91,6  | 193,9 | 195,9 | 45,1 %                                                |
| 3. | Khizi     | -     | 0,9   | 1,2   | 1,5   | 1,6   | 9,2%                                                  |

Source: *Demographic indicators of Azerbaijan Baku: SSC, 2024*

Although the population growth rate of Sumgayit city was at its highest during the last 20 years of the Soviet era, the town experienced weak growth in the following decade. In the last decade, however, Sumgayit recorded a high growth rate, and net migration played a decisive role in this growth [8].

The share of Khirdalan in the Absheron administrative region has increased rapidly, and this trend is expected to continue. There are nine additional settlements in the region, with the most significant population growth occurring in Saray and Mehdiabad. Among the villages, the population (permanent) of Masazir is 68.3 thousand people, and the current population is more than 80 thousand people; it would be appropriate to give this village the status of a city. The populations of the towns of Mahammadi and Novkhani are between 14,000 and 17,000 people, and since they have infrastructure suitable for a modern city, they can be considered a settlement [5]. With the implementation of these legal and administrative measures, the urban population in the administrative region is expected to exceed 400,000 people, further strengthening its position in terms of urbanization level in the country. The Khizi region is distinguished by its low level of urbanization. Despite being the largest region in terms of area, the Khizi region experiences weak urban population growth and urbanization. The region comprises one city, three settlements, and a small number of villages.

Most importantly, it also surpassed Baku city in terms of migration balance. The primary issue in this region is that more than 100,000 private houses located on agricultural land have not yet been registered. Mehdiabad was established as a new settlement in 2002, and Shafag in 2024 [7].

As a result of the sustainable socio-economic policies implemented in the region, new enterprises were established, and an impetus was given to employment growth. A large number of new jobs were opened in the economic region in 2022. For this reason, migration from rural areas to cities has accelerated. According to the analysis, if we group the towns of the region by their population and economic potential, we will see that Sumgayit is a regional center, Khirdalan is of national importance, and Khizi is an administrative district center. While the specific weight of the urban population in the administrative districts where the regional center cities are located is distinguished by a high indicator, in other district centers, this indicator is lower; however, the town of Khirdalan is an exception in this respect. Analysis of the hierarchical grouping of towns in the region by population reveals that cities are experiencing growth [17].

Analysis for the period 2005-2022 shows that the natural increase in the urban population in the economic region increased from 2005 to 2015 and decreased from 2015 to 2021. 80% of the total increase in 2022 was due to the natural increase in the urban population. These statistics show that the natural increase in the urban population is very high.

The role of natural population movement and migration in shaping the geodemographic conditions of urban settlements in the region is noteworthy. Between 2005 and 2022, the birth rate and natural growth of the urban population exceeded the National indicator [12].

The intensification of residential development along urban corridors can be expected to exert considerable strain on existing municipal infrastructure. From an analytical standpoint, such growth often

exceeds the designed capacity of water supply and wastewater systems, while simultaneously placing heightened demand on electricity and gas distribution networks. In addition, increased residential density typically contributes to heavier traffic volumes, accelerating roadway deterioration and congestion. Public transportation systems are likewise affected, as higher population concentrations lead to substantially greater ridership and operational pressure.

Collectively, these effects diminish the operational efficiency and service quality of urban systems while imposing additional administrative and managerial burdens on municipal authorities. At the same time, accelerated urban migration amplifies pressures on the housing market and fuels patterns of urban sprawl by increasing demand for residential land and housing stock. This trend is associated with rapid escalation in property values and rental prices, persistent deficits in social and affordable housing provision, the proliferation of informal or substandard residential areas, and the unregulated expansion of the urban footprint. Taken together, these dynamics pose substantial obstacles to long-term urban planning efforts and weaken the formulation and implementation of sustainable urban development policies.

Population inflows into urban centers are frequently not accompanied by a commensurate expansion of formal employment opportunities. Consequently, unemployment rates tend to increase, informal and precarious forms of work become more prevalent, and inequalities within the labor market are exacerbated. In parallel, intensifying urbanization generates growing demand for education, healthcare, and social services; however, institutional capacities often fail to keep pace with this growth. This imbalance manifests in overcrowded educational facilities, limited hospital bed availability, and insufficient provision of early childhood care services.

While urbanization can serve as a catalyst for socio-economic advancement, its uncontrolled progression produces a range of systemic and structural challenges. Effectively addressing these issues necessitates the adoption of sustainable urban planning strategies, targeted investment in social infrastructure, the enforcement of robust environmental regulations, and the comprehensive modernization of urban transportation networks.

One of the key demographic indicators influencing natural population growth is the fluctuation in the number of marriages and divorces. These indicators directly affect family formation and the overall dynamics of natural increase. Social transformations occurring within society also shape the development and structure of families, while in turn, the evolution of family institutions influences broader social relations.

Significant changes have taken place in marriage and divorce patterns during the years of independence. According to official records, 51,870 marriages and 13,139 divorces were registered by civil registry offices during January–October 2022 (SSC, 2022).

Furthermore, the marriage coefficient in Sumgayit for the period 2007–2014 was recorded at approximately 8–10‰.

Recent demographic observations indicate that the divorce rate in the country remained relatively stable for an extended period, fluctuating within the range of 1.2–1.4‰. However, beginning in 2011, a marked upward trend emerged, with the indicator rising to 1.9–2.2‰. In the context of marital dynamics, 2007 may be identified as the year with the highest recorded marriage figures.

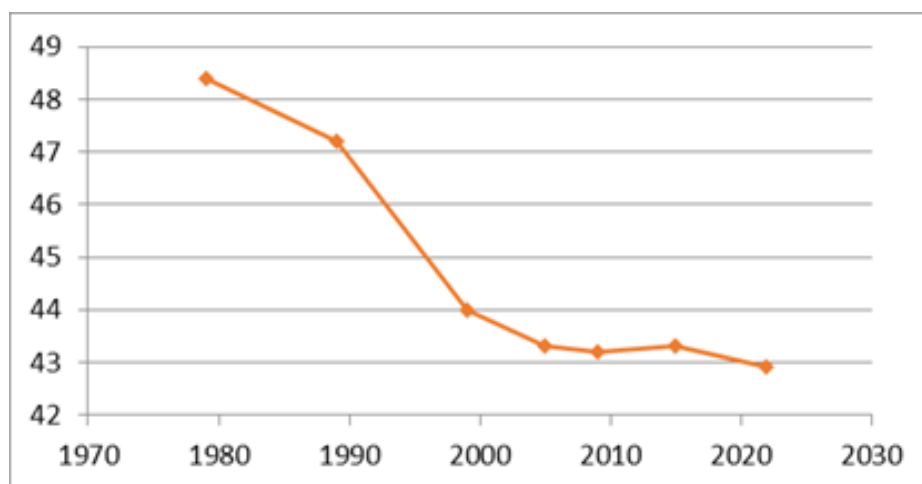
A longitudinal assessment of marriage rates in Sumgayit over the past five-year period reveals a sustained decline. Specifically, the marriage rate decreased from 5.1 per 1,000 population in 2019 to 3.6 per 1,000 population in 2024, indicating a notable contraction in nuptial activity.

Conversely, the divorce rate displayed a modest upward progression during the same interval. While the rate stood at 1.8 per 1,000 population in 2019, it increased to 2.1 per 1,000 population by 2024

(Population of Azerbaijan, Baku: SSC, 2024). These shifts collectively underscore evolving patterns in family formation and dissolution within the urban demographic landscape.

Overall, the marriage rate in Sumgayit exceeds that of other major cities in Azerbaijan. This pattern may be attributed to comparatively favorable socio-economic conditions, particularly the wider availability of employment opportunities and housing. These factors enhance the prospects for family formation and thereby contribute to higher nuptiality levels within the city.

During the period under study, although the population in Baku and the Absheron-Khizi economic region grew rapidly, its share in the country's urban population gradually decreased. The share of Greater Baku in the country's urban population decreased from 48.4% in 1979 to 42.9% in 2022. ( Fig.1). In the early years of independence, migration led to a decline in urban populations. In the subsequent period, this process was also significantly impacted by the 2000 amendment to the legislation on the status of settlements. According to the adopted law, previously existing rural settlements were also included in the list of urban settlements (Efendiyev, 2015, p. 76). As a result, the increase in the specific weight of the total urban population also led to a decrease in the share of Baku and the Absheron-Khizi economic region.



**Figure 1. Baku's population as a share of the overall urban population**

Nearly 85% of all new job creation in 2023 in Azerbaijan occurred in Baku and the Absheron–Khizi economic region, demonstrating that the employment expansion is strongly spatialized to the urban areas of these two zones. The persistent imbalance in this respect remains a primary driver of the attractiveness of the region to population inflows, so that new urban populations will be attracted to the region to maintain demographic growth in the capital and nearby areas. Based on Muradov, 2014, the Absheron–Khizi region currently holds 8.4% of the country's economically active population and 9.9% of the total employment. Because of its advanced socio-economic profile and a relatively high settlement density, this region has established a wide and quite well-resourced social infrastructure system. As a result, almost 20% of Azerbaijan's social sector is located in the cities of this economic region, showing its importance in the course of national development.

National statistical data reveal a contraction of 6.8% in the number of preschool institutions, accompanied by a 9.3% reduction in preschool enrollment. A comparable trend is evident in general education, where the number of schools declined by 6.8% and student enrollment decreased by 8%. Against this broader national backdrop, the Absheron–Khizi economic region occupies a particularly prominent

position. It accommodates 5.4% of the country's private preschool institutions and 12% of general education establishments, indicating a relatively high concentration of educational facilities.

The region's significance is further reinforced at the tertiary level, with 10.4% of higher education institutions and 7.5% of Azerbaijan's university student population located within its boundaries, underscoring its emerging role as an academic center. A similar pattern is observed in the healthcare sector, where the Absheron–Khizi economic region contains 4% of general hospitals, employs 6.1% of the nation's physicians, and accounts for 4.5% of secondary medical staff. Taken together, these indicators emphasize the region's growing importance in the delivery of social services and the development of human capital.

The principal driver of internal migration in Azerbaijan is regional socio-economic inequality. The structural factors discussed above have reinforced the centrality of the Absheron–Khizi economic region particularly the city of Baku as the country's dominant urban hub and primary destination for population inflows. For more than a century, improved employment prospects, access to higher-quality educational institutions, and superior healthcare services have collectively encouraged migration toward the capital. Consequently, these long-standing dynamics have contributed to a steady rise in the number of undocumented residents living in Baku. The Absheron–Khizi region, which includes the Absheron district, the city of Sumgayit, and the Khizi district, has become one of the most densely populated and economically significant areas of Azerbaijan. Its geographic proximity to Baku and its rapid population growth have positioned the region as a central hub of industrial activity, service-sector expansion, and labor mobility. In recent years, demographic shifts particularly internal migration have had a substantial impact on the size and structure of the labor force. This essay explores these demographic changes, the distribution of employment across different sectors, and the broader socio-economic implications for the region.

The region's population has been growing steadily due to increased migration from other parts of the country. Many individuals and families relocate to Absheron and Sumgayit seeking more stable employment opportunities, improved social services, and access to modern infrastructure. As a result, the proportion of working-age individuals has increased, creating a large and diverse labor force [4]. This demographic shift has strengthened the region's employment potential and contributed to the expansion of both public and private sector activities.

Sumgayit, historically known as one of Azerbaijan's major industrial centers, has played a central role in absorbing the expanding labor force. The presence of industrial parks, chemical production facilities, and metallurgical enterprises requires a steady supply of skilled and semi-skilled workers. The establishment of the Sumgayit Chemical Industrial Park has further diversified production and encouraged investment, resulting in new employment opportunities in manufacturing, logistics, and engineering [22]. These developments have transformed Sumgayit into a modern industrial hub capable of supporting long-term employment growth.

The Absheron district, in contrast, has experienced rapid development in its service economy. With population growth comes increased demand for education, healthcare, transportation, retail trade, and hospitality services. These sectors offer a wide range of employment opportunities and are particularly important for integrating women and young people into the labor market. The district's connection to the Baku metropolitan area strengthens its role as a commuter zone, where many residents travel daily for work. This interconnectedness has contributed to a more flexible and dynamic regional labor market [24].

Although the Khizi district is less populated, its economic role within the region is distinct and significant. Agriculture and livestock farming remain the primary sources of employment, providing rural

households with stable income options. Additionally, Khizi has seen growing interest in eco-tourism and recreation due to its natural landscapes, including the Altiaghaj National Park and coastal tourist areas. Investments in tourism infrastructure have created seasonal and permanent job opportunities in hospitality, tour guiding, and transportation [21]. As a result, Khizi complements the industrial and service-oriented economies of Absheron and Sumgayit by contributing to agricultural productivity and sustainable tourism development.

Despite these strengths, the region faces notable challenges. Rapid population growth places pressure on housing, transportation, and public services, which may lead to disparities between labor supply and demand. Skill mismatches also present difficulties, particularly in technical and engineering fields where specialized training is required. In rural areas, limited access to technology and investment can hinder productivity and restrict economic diversification. Policymakers emphasize the need for vocational education, infrastructure modernization, and targeted regional development programs to enhance employment outcomes [23].

In conclusion, the Absheron–Khizi region illustrates a complex but promising employment environment shaped by demographic change, industrial expansion, and sectoral diversity. The dense populations of Absheron and Sumgayit drive industrial and service-sector growth, while the smaller yet essential labor base of Khizi supports agriculture and emerging tourism industries. With strategic investments and sustainable development planning, the region is well positioned to remain a major contributor to Azerbaijan’s national labor market and economic development.

The industrial sector is a cornerstone of regional employment, supported primarily by the Sumgayit Chemical Industrial Park. This industrial zone accommodates enterprises specializing in polymers, chemistry, metallurgy, and construction materials, collectively providing thousands of jobs. The region’s proximity to Azerbaijan’s oil and gas infrastructure stimulates the growth of technical services, refining operations, and related production fields. These developments not only sustain existing professions but also introduce new occupational categories that require specialized skills [22].

The Absheron district has become one of the main service centers surrounding Baku. Employment opportunities in retail trade, logistics, education, healthcare, hospitality, and administrative services are increasing rapidly [24]. Continuous urban development and rising consumer demand encourage the growth of both high-skilled and entry-level positions. Recent efforts to formalize the labor market such as improved regulation and employer accountability have significantly reduced informal employment, strengthening job stability and social protection [23].

Agriculture remains a vital economic activity in Khizi. Livestock breeding, beekeeping, horticulture, and traditional crop farming are the primary employment sources for rural communities. The government’s agricultural subsidies, credit programs, and modern technical support mechanisms have helped increase productivity and create new jobs. Innovations such as drip irrigation systems, greenhouse cultivation, and mechanized farming have further strengthened agricultural efficiency and expanded labor demand [4].

Tourism and recreation represent rapidly expanding sectors with long-term employment potential. Attractions such as Khizi Gyzyt Gaya, Altyaghaj National Park, coastal tourism facilities, and local history centers provide opportunities for seasonal and permanent employment. Growth in eco-tourism and hospitality services has stimulated job creation in accommodation, transportation, tour guiding, and food services. Although tourism currently accounts for a small share of total employment, its expansion promises significant future contributions to economic diversification [21].

The Absheron–Khizi region demonstrates a dynamic and diversified employment landscape shaped by industrial growth, service sector expansion, agricultural modernization, and a developing tourism industry. Its rapidly expanding working-age population, supported by migration and urbanization, reinforces the region's capacity to sustain economic activity. While industry and services dominate employment, agriculture and tourism remain essential for rural livelihoods and long-term regional diversification. With continued investment and strategic planning, the region is positioned to remain a key contributor to Azerbaijan's national labor market and economic development.

## CONCLUSIONS

The findings and suggestions we made while studying the trends observed in the processes of urban settlement and demographic development of cities in the Absheron-Khizi economic region can be summarized as follows:

- The factors that played the most crucial role in the growth of the urban population in the economic region during 1999-2023 were natural growth and migration. A positive migration balance was typical for cities during this period. [4]

- The highest population growth among cities in the region is in Sumgayit and Khirdalan. The average annual growth of the urban population of the region accelerated from 2010 to 2023.

- To implement continuous measures in the employment, social protection, medical, and other areas to resolve the problems of demographic development in the cities of the region.

- Because the Absheron-Khizi economic region is located in the vicinity of Baku and is one of the strategically important regions of the country, urban planning and development of cities should be of great importance as the main priority direction of the state [18] .

- Analysis of prospective demographic processes shows that in the next 10 years, the natural increase and birth rate of the urban population of the region are expected to decrease, especially the average annual growth rate is likely to fall to a lower level, which will create conditions for a slowdown in demographic development in cities and deepen strategically essential problems for the country. In this regard, we recommend the following proposals.

- Sustainable settlement of the population should be ensured in the newly formed Absheron-Khizi economic region.

- Promote coordinated urban development: Establish region-wide land-use frameworks that guide orderly urban growth and limit the spread of unplanned settlements.

- Strengthen social service provision: Expand and upgrade educational, medical, childcare, and community facilities so they adequately serve the region's rapidly increasing population.

- Advance transportation planning: Improve the efficiency of public transport, ease traffic congestion, and enhance connectivity between settlements across the Absheron–Khizi economic region.

- Taking into account the economic potential of the region, it is vital to create industrial districts, as well as further develop these districts in existing areas and merge the villages near them, and renew them in accordance with the urban infrastructure.

- Service areas should be created in the vicinity at the expense of the tourism and recreation resources of the Absheron-Khizi economic region, thus creating conditions for job opportunities.

- It is advisable to grant the status of settlements to large villages in the economic region, and the status of cities to large settlements.

- Healthy, modern, safe, and sustainable urban development should be carried out in the economic region.

## REFERENCES:

- [1] Azerbaijan Republic. (2019). State Program for Socio-Economic Development of the Regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2019–2023.
- [2] State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan. (2024). Demographic Indicators of Azerbaijan (644 p.). Baku.
- [3] State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan. (2024). Population of Azerbaijan (140 p.). Baku.
- [4] State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan. (2023). Regions of Azerbaijan. Baku.
- [5] Geography of the Republic of Azerbaijan (Vol. 2) (2015) // Baku: Europe Publishing.
- [6] State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan. (2022). Population Census in the Republic of Azerbaijan 2019 (Vol. 1, 682 p.). Baku.
- [7] Badalov, E. S. (2016). Socio-demographic problems and settlement issues in the Absheron economic-geographical region (199 p.) // Baku: Europe.
- [8] State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan. (2013). Administrative territorial division of the Republic of Azerbaijan (487 p.). Baku.
- [9] State Census Bureau of Azerbaijan. (2022). Results of the 2019 Population Census of the Republic of Azerbaijan: Part I. Population size, sex and age composition (682 p.). Baku.
- [10] State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan. (2000). Results of the 1999 Population Census of the Republic of Azerbaijan: Volume I. Population size, sex and age composition (565 p.). Baku.
- [11] Efendiyev, V. A., & Nagiyev, S. G. (2017). Geourbanistics (271 p.). Baku.
- [12] Eminov, Z. N. (2005). Population of Azerbaijan (565 p.). Baku: Chirag.
- [13] Efendiyev, V. A. (n.d.). Dynamics of the urban population of Azerbaijan.
- [14] Mehraliyev, E. G. (2003). Regional analysis of demographic potential in Azerbaijan (234 p.). Baku: Elm
- [15] Tapdıqoglu (Valishov), N. (2019). Cities of the territory of Azerbaijan: Ancient and modern cities in the territory of the republic // Encyclopedic information (520 p.) // Baku: Zardabi Publishing LLC.
- [16] Muradov, R. (2014). Labor market development and employment dynamics in Azerbaijan's economic regions// Baku: State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- [17] Mammadov, R. M., Eminov, Z. N., & Eyyubov, N. H. (2016). The realities of population geography: Development dynamics, settlement, resources and prospects. On the roads to independence// Baku: East–West.
- [18] Nagiev, S. K. (2009). Small and medium-sized cities in the settlement system of Azerbaijan. *Izvestia of the Russian Geographical Society (RGO)*, 76–79. St. Petersburg.
- [19] Nagiyev, S. K. (2014). The newest trends in settlement development in Greater Baku // In Materials of the scientific conference devoted to the 90th anniversary of the birth of Rizvan Piriev (pp. 197–202). Baku.
- [20] Nagiev, S. K. (2005). Demographic situation in Azerbaijan // *Izvestia of the Russian Geographical Society (RGO)*, 71–77. St. Petersburg.
- [21] Azerbaijan Tourism Board. (2021). Tourism development report: Northern regions of Azerbaijan. Baku: ATB Press.
- [22] Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan. (2022). Industrial zones and employment growth in Sumgayit. Government Publications.
- [23] World Bank. (2022). Azerbaijan economic modernization and labor market report // World Bank Group.
- [24] Aliyev, R. (2020). Urbanization and labor mobility in the Absheron region // Baku: Economic Research Institute.