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## ИЗВЕСТИЯ

НАЦИОНАЛЬНОЙ АКАДЕМИИ НАУК  
РЕСПУБЛИКИ КАЗАХСТАН  
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## NEWS

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**EVALUATION AND TRENDS OF REGIONAL DIFFERENCES  
IN KAZAKHSTAN**

**Abstract.** In the conditions of regionalization of the economy and globalization of world markets for goods and services, regions act as independent subjects of competition. In market conditions, regions compete for investment resources (public, private and foreign), attract taxpayers, as well as for all sources of resources and markets. At the same time, regions are independent subjects in national and international markets. This study analyzes key indicators of social and economic development of the regions of Kazakhstan, systematized methodological approaches to measuring the regional competitiveness by calculating traditional and integrated indicators. We identified the negative effects of the advancing commodity sector development are as follows: increased socio-economic differentiation of regions; is the depletion of raw materials. The outstripping development of the commodity sector leads to the emergence of problem non-raw regions, characterized by a relatively low level of real money income of the population, low budget provision due to own sources of income.

**Key words:** region, competitiveness, social and economic situation, gross regional product, regional development.

**Introduction.** In all countries of the world - due to differences in geographical location, natural and climatic conditions, demographic situation, development history and other factors - the regions have different levels of socio-economic development. This gives rise to many serious social and economic problems. Therefore, each state strives to improve the standard of living in backward regions, that is, to pursue a regional policy aimed at leveling the conditions and increasing the level of their development.

The works of Kazakh scientists such as U.Baymuratov [1], K. Kazhimurat [2], O. Sabden [3], K. Sagadiyev [4], N. Nurlanova [5] and others are of the greatest interest for the study of theoretical approaches and mechanisms of regional economy management. Their research has touched upon numerous aspects, beginning with factors, conditions and criteria of competitiveness, and ending with mechanisms for increasing the competitiveness of regions and the country as a whole.

Despite fundamental methodological and practical studies of domestic and foreign scientists, the main principles and factors of the development of the regional economy, many problems related to the integration of statistical assessment of the level of competitiveness of the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The development of effective mechanisms for improving the structural policy of the region, the search and development of new competitive opportunities of the region, including by improving the quality of human capital in a domestic environment economy remain poorly understood.

Modern Kazakhstan is characterized by a high degree of openness of the regions economy, the tendency towards interconnectedness and interdependence of the regions of the country that are parts of the global economic system is becoming more and more evident. In addition, economic growth in Kazakhstan is mainly related to the outstripping development of the commodity sector. If in the raw regions there is stabilization and even some growth, for developed regions with qualified personnel and high population density in the past, a decline in production is characteristic, which makes it difficult for them to transition to market relations. As a result, the socio-economic differentiation of Kazakhstan regions is increasing, which is becoming increasingly difficult to overcome.

These circumstances necessitate the development and implementation of new approaches to the effective use of regional factors and the study of Kazakhstan's interregional ties in order to determine the specific development strategy for each regions of the country and to ensure the effective development of a single economic space.

**Methodical approaches to the quantitative assessment of the socio-economic development of the regional economy.** The heterogeneity of the country territory according to various characteristics or the large size of the territory from the point of view of certain study purposes or practical activity necessitate the division of this territory into parts - regions. At present, the territory of Kazakhstan includes 16 regions of the country (14 regions, Almaty and Astana). In the Concept of the regional policy of Kazakhstan for 2014-2020 the regions were grouped according to the so-called problem principle [6].

Such grouping of Kazakhstan regions is actual today. The main indicators of social and economic development of groups regions are given in Table 1.

Table 1 - The main indicators of socio-economic development of Kazakhstan regions in 2017

	Share of the region,%				
	In the total population,%	In GRP,%	In the volume of industrial production,%	In gross agricultural output,%	In development of investments in fixed assets,%
The Republic of Kazakhstan	100	100	100	100	100
Group 1	13	25	4	1	20
Group 2	6	19	35	2	29
Group 3	21	20	26	18	14
Group 4	32	17	15	35	18
Group 5	7	7	9	18	5
Group 6	21	12	11	26	14

Source - calculated by the author based on data of Agency on statistics [7].

The first group of regions includes the cities of Astana and Almaty - these are regions with a high level of per capita incomes of the population, diversified industry, developed financial sector and high scientific and technical potential. At present, development programs for intensive development of manufacturing industry, infrastructure, scientific, cultural and other centers, formation of tourism and recreation infrastructure have been worked out and implemented for the cities of Astana and Almaty. The second group is formed by the Atyrau and Mangistau regions, rich in hydrocarbon mineral resources. The average per capita incomes of the village in these areas are the highest.

The third group includes East Kazakhstan, Karaganda and Pavlodar regions, rich in natural mineral and raw materials. Here mining and processing industries using local raw materials, as well as machine building, light and food industries have developed. Regional development programs for the second and third groups of regions provide for the diversification of industrial production mainly in processing industries, the development of entrepreneurship in agriculture, the development of transport and communications infrastructure. At the same time, special attention is required for measures to protect the environment, especially on the shelf of the Caspian Sea.

The fourth group includes Aktube, Zhambyl, Kostanay and South Kazakhstan regions, rich in natural resources and significant agricultural land. In the regions of this group per capita incomes of the population below the average republican level; approximately the same economic base and equal directional structure.

Here, the regional policy should be aimed at implementing measures for the further use of the potential of large enterprises, the development of industries serving agriculture.

The fifth group includes the West Kazakhstan and North Kazakhstan regions, where the machine building industry is mainly developed, and there are significant areas of agricultural land. In addition, the West Kazakhstan region has developed oil and gas production.

Here an important strategic line should be the modernization and renewal of machine-building enterprises, primarily the defense industry.

The sixth group unites Akmola, Almaty and Kyzylorda, with developed agricultural production, except for oil production at Kumkol in Kyzylorda region. The average per capita income of the population is lower than the average republican level, although the Kyzylorda region is allocated (due to the development of the Kumkol oil field). Here the main attention of the regional policy should be given to the development of small and medium-sized enterprises processing agricultural products, as well as procurement, marketing, etc. Due to low living standards in these regions, it is necessary to develop and implement projects to create and develop industrial production.

The growth of Kazakhstan's competitiveness is impossible without sustainable development of the regions. That is the key in the Strategy of Territorial Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan up to 2020 approved by the Decree of the Head of State [8].

Let us consider the problem of socio-economic differentiation of the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan based on the results of the competitiveness rating of the regions of Kazakhstan prepared by the Agency for Investigating the Return on Investment (AIRI) in early 2017. The ranking of the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan was compiled using an index method similar to the method used in the global competitiveness rating, published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD). In this rating, competitiveness is measured based on such indices as the index of economic activity, government effectiveness, business efficiency and infrastructure. These indices are calculated as a weighted average of several indicators. For example, the index of economic activity includes the following parameters: international trade, external investment [9].

In order to determine the components of the indices reflecting the level of development and competitiveness of the region, first of all, a number of indicators have been identified that will be taken into account when identifying the competitiveness of the region. An important condition for constructing an index that would most fully reflect how competitive a particular region is the choice of adequate indicators that should fully reflect the criterion of competitiveness and basic competitive advantages, reflect the progressiveness of the industry structure, and be statistically accessible and contain a minimum subjective interpretation. The choice of indicators is also determined by the availability of statistical data on these indicators.

Thus, the main indicators of the rating of the republic region are:

- Index of economic development;
- Index of the standard of the population living;
- Index of scientific and innovative development;
- Index of infrastructure development of the region.

To compile and calculate the indices, country rating strategies were applied taking into account the specificity of the regions' competitiveness. The methodology of country ratings is a way of aggregating a number of particular indicators (criteria) into a more general indicator characterizing the relative positions of the country (region) in this indicator. A distinctive feature of the ratings is the scaling of indicators, the essence of which is to bring the indicators measured in different units (in percent, monetary, etc. units) to immeasurable values in the range from 0 to 1 (where 0 will correspond to the worst result among regions, and 1 - respectively, the best). The scaling will be done by converting from formulas (1) or (2):

$$I_j^i = X_i^j - X_{\min i} / X_{\max i} - X_{\min i} \quad (1)$$

$$I_j^i = 1 - X_i^j - X_{\min i} / X_{\max i} - X_{\min i} \quad (2)$$

where:  $X_{ji}$  is the  $i$ -th index of the  $j$ -th region;  $X_{\min i}$  is the minimum value of the  $i$ -th index among all  $j$ -th regions;  $X_{\max i}$  is the maximum value of the  $i$ -th index among all  $j$ -th regions.

The transformation according to formula (1) is realized if large values correspond to the best result and according to formula (2), if the lower values correspond to the best value. To obtain the value of the integral coefficient, it is the first necessary to find the arithmetic average of the simple partial coefficients (formula 3):

$$L_{average} = \sum_{j=1}^n I_j^i \quad (3)$$

Further, the obtained values must be transformed according to the formula (4):

$$I_{average} = I_{average j} - I_{average min}^i / I_{average max}^i - I_{average min}^i \quad (4)$$

This transformation (formula 4) is necessary to bring the value of the coefficients of the region  $L_{average}$  [0;1]. Thus, in the ranking there will always be regions with the best ( $L_{average} = 1$ ) and worst ( $L_{average} = 0$ ) indicators, and the remaining regions will be located relative to these extreme ones.

**Analysis of the economic environment of regional development.** Carried out calculations made it possible to group the regions according to the level of competitiveness in general, and also for this or that indicator in particular.

Knowing that the index can take values from 0 to 1, we can distinguish three groups of regions with equal intervals:

- 1 group - high level of competitiveness:  $0.66 < I < 1.0$ ;
- 2 group - average level of competitiveness:  $0.33 < I < 0.65$ ;
- 3rd group - low level of competitiveness:  $0.00 < I < 0.32$ ;

16 regions participate in the rating: 14 regions and the cities of Astana and Almaty (Fig. 1).

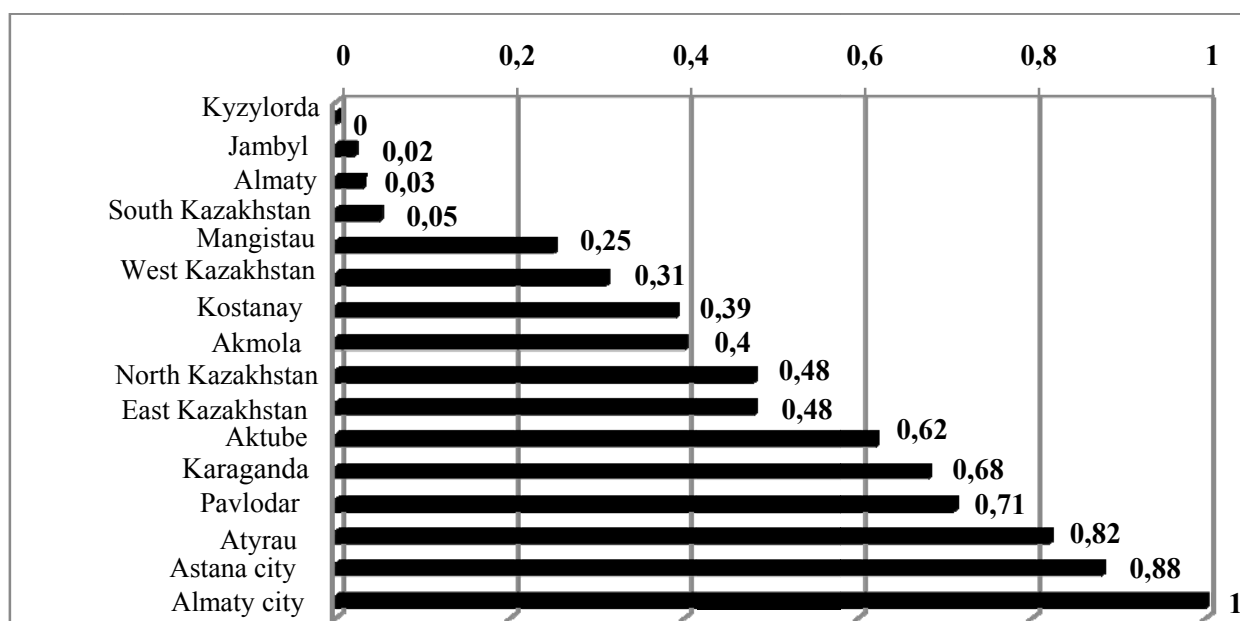


Figure 1 - Competitiveness index by regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2017.

Note: prepared by the authors

The most competitive regions are still Almaty city, Astana city and Atyrau region. The least competitive regions are Almaty, Zhambyl and Kyzylorda regions. However, in 2017, compared with 2016, the ranking among outsiders has changed: the rating of Almaty region rose to 2 positions, and Zhambyl and Kyzylorda regions dropped to 1 position.

In determining the competitiveness index of the region, indicators such as per capita GRP, investment in fixed assets, poverty level, industrial production, unemployment, etc. are taken into account. The following table gives some key indicators that are included in the region's competitiveness index. Table 2 shows that the cities of Almaty and Astana, Atyrau region are relatively high in the rating, however this same regions is at one of the last places in terms of the standard of the population living. The average level of competitiveness prevails in Karaganda, Pavlodar and East Kazakhstan regions (Table 2).



Table 2 - Components of the competitiveness index of the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 2017

	GRP per capita	Investments in fixed capital	Depth of poverty	The number of subjects of small enterprise	The volume of industrial production
Unit of measure	thousand tenge	million tenge	%	unit	tenge, KZT
Republic of Kazakhstan	1 665,3	4 026 480	0,9	837 083	15 929 052
Akmola	1 105,3	111 025	1,3	32 598	236 417
Aktube	1 889,8	328 751	0,5	35 570	1 253 915
Almaty	658,9	299 409	0,3	113 368	444 202
Atyrau	6 413,6	836 980	0,5	31 012	4 319 754
West Kazakhstan	2 168,2	127 050	0,9	27 583	1 480 716
Jambyl	603,3	97 016	0,6	39 727	185 715
Karaganda	1 769,4	213 065	0,6	55 855	1 325 357
Kostanay	1 289,6	127 123	0,9	42 298	563 976
Kyzylorda	1 464,1	142 172	0,8	21 574	1 063 126
Mangystau	3 273,5	296 063	1,1	27 593	2 064 855
South Kazakhstan	580,9	215 308	1,8	135 262	377 180
Pavlodar	1 163,1	178 999	1,5	75 196	822 907
North Kazakhstan	1 665,3	4 026 480	0,9	837 083	15 929 052
East Kazakhstan	1 105,3	111 025	1,3	32 598	236 417
Astana city	2 90461	447 257	0,4	49 001	177 360
Almaty city	3 418,8	350 328	0,2	94 420	532 750

Note: prepared by the authors

In addition, these regions have more developed electricity infrastructure. Regions of the southern zone have a relatively low level of socio-economic development due to the smaller number of large industrial enterprises and weak resource availability.

The regions with an average level of competitiveness are five of the sixteen surveyed regions: Aktube, East Kazakhstan, North Kazakhstan, Akmola and Kostanay regions.

The list of regions with a low level of competitiveness increased from four to six: West Kazakhstan and Mangystau regions left the ranks of regions with an average level of competitiveness, joining South Kazakhstan, Almaty, Zhambyl and Kyzylorda regions.

According to experts (JSC "Center for Marketing and Analytical Studies"), to increase competitiveness, Kazakhstan should pay more attention to the development of regions, using available resources to create regional clusters. However, there is a huge gap between Kazakhstan's regions in many social and economic indicators. Most of the regions have a low level of competitiveness, and none of them received a high rating of productivity level [10].

Based on the results of my research, aimed at ranking the regions of Kazakhstan on a set of statistical indicators. Obtained results made it possible to identify the weak points of each of the regions, as well as their initial advantages relative to the average republican level [11]. For analysis, publicly available data were taken from the official website of the Statistics Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

All 19 official indicators we shared into three groups (categories): the economic and social sphere, as well as the standard of living of the population. For maximum objectivity all of them are considered either relative to the population of the region, or in percent. Most of the indicators reflect the situation for 2017. Ranking by a set of statistical indicators allows you to determine the problem of the relevant region for one or another parameter relative to other administrative-territorial units. In the event that the region occupies a place in the parameter from the 1st to the 6th, this indicator is defined as a good one - "does not require intervention" from the local executive authorities. If the region takes place from the 7th to the 10th, then its position on this criterion is characterized as a borderline - "requires point measures" on the part of the executive bodies.

If the region takes place from the 11th to the 16th, the situation is characterized by the indicator as critical and, accordingly, "requires prompt, comprehensive intervention". According to the results of my research, the relevant administrative-territorial units were conditionally divided into three groups:

- lead regions – Astana city, Atyrau region, Almaty city, as well as Aktube, Mangystau, Pavlodar regions (1-6 places respectively);

- regions with average indicators - West Kazakhstan, Karaganda, Almaty, Kyzylorda (7-10 places respectively);
- outside regions - East Kazakhstan, Kostanay, North Kazakhstan, Akmola, South Kazakhstan and Zhambyl (11-16 places respectively) (Table 3).

Table 3 - The results of ranking the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the complex statistical indicators for 2017

№	The regions of Kazakhstan	Total score categories			Final place
		The economic sphere	Social services	The standard of living	
1	Akmola	12	14	13	14
2	Aktube	2	9	2	4
3	Almaty	11	3	14	9
4	Atyrau	1	4	4	2
5	West Kazakhstan	8	10	7	7
6	Jambyl	16	7	15	16
7	Karaganda	10	12	6	8
8	Kostanay	9	15	9	12
9	Kyzylorda	14	6	12	10
10	Mangistau	4	2	5	5
11	South Kazakhstan	15	5	16	15
12	Pavlodar	6	11	7	6
13	North Kazakhstan	13	13	11	13
14	East Kazakhstan	7	16	10	11
15	Astana city	5	1	1	1
16	Almaty city	3	7	2	3

Note: prepared by the authors

The results of the ranking reflect the basic level of development of the regions, due to its geographical location, the quality of the raw materials base, or a special status. The result of the region on the sum of seats also reflects the level of its attractiveness for the republican elites. The city of Astana in the level of production of innovative, as well as industrial products per inhabitant is the 14<sup>th</sup> place in both indicators. The high place (the fourth) for GRP (Gross Regional product) is provided at the expense of the non-production sector. The critical level of crime and the high cost of the food basket are characteristic not only of Astana, but also of Almaty. The reasons for both cities are general: in the first case - increased attractiveness for migrants, as well as a comparatively low proportion of unregistered crimes, in the second - the excess of demand over supply due to the high level of income of the population.

A number of common problems have been identified in Atyrau and Mangistau regions. Most of them are due to the raw nature of their economy. In the areas under consideration, low indices for the production of industrial products per capita, a high level of prices (a living wage), as well as a low quality of pedagogical personnel were recorded. According to such indicators as meat production and price level, Mangistau region occupies the last places. The least number of problem sectors was recorded in Aktube and West Kazakhstan regions. Areas of outsiders ranking, mostly having low rates in all three areas and for most of the statistical indicators under consideration, is the South Kazakhstan region, ranking fifth in terms of the set of indicators in the social sphere, due to the country's lowest death rate from oncological diseases, as well as the second place in terms of natural population growth and the level of crime; and Zhambyl region, as well as North Kazakhstan, which has good aggregate indicators in the social sphere (7th place). At the same time, the region occupies the 16th and 15th places in the economic sphere and the standard of living of the population respectively.

Deep regional differences exist in the average per capita output of industrial products, agriculture, services rendered by enterprises and organizations of the service sector, and other analyzed economic indicators. The unevenness of economic development has led to a significant gap in social indicators assessing the potential of regional systems in Kazakhstan. "Coefficient of variation" shows how wide the spread of macroeconomic indicators in the regions. At the same time, he does not take into account the fact that the minimum and maximum values can be quite different from the others and can be a kind of "emissions". However, in combination, both coefficients give a fairly complete picture of regional differentiations. For clarity, we will give data on the breakdown of the most important indicators (Table 4).

Table 4 - "Coefficient of variation" by the values of macroeconomic indicators in the regions of Kazakhstan

	2007		2012		2017	
	Region	Absolute values of the indicators	Region	Absolute values of the indicators	Region	Absolute values of the indicators
1. GRP per capita, thousand tenge						
The maximum value	Atyrau	289,7	Atyrau	1797,2	Almaty city	4896,3
The minimum value	Jambyl	43,8	North Kazakhstan	143,1	North Kazakhstan	667,9
The difference		6,6 times		12,6 times		7,3 times
2. The average monthly nominal wage						
The maximum value	Atyrau	41,6	Atyrau	65,2	Atyrau	165,9
The minimum value	Jambyl	12,3	Jambyl	22,5	Jambyl	61,8
The difference		3,4 times		2,9 times		2,7 times
3. Nominal income, thousand tenge per month						
The maximum value	Atyrau	38,2	Almaty city	51,7	Atyrau	106,1
The minimum value	Jambyl	11,3	North Kazakhstan	14,3	North Kazakhstan	28,1
The difference		3,4 times		3,6 times		3,8 times

Note: prepared by the authors

Table 5- Indicators that determine the level of the HDI of the Republic of Kazakhstan in 2017

Region	ALE, year	Literacy rate, %	Coverage training m from 6 to 24 years, %	GDP per capita, dollar USA, PPP	Index ALE	The index of education	Index of income	HDI, 2016	HDI, 2016
Akmola	70,6	99,610	71,6	16869,860	0,760	0,903	0,856	0,840	0,763
Aktube	72,4	99,790	71,8	23741,030	0,790	0,904	0,913	0,869	0,792
Almaty	71,8	99,352	66,6	11366,290	0,780	0,884	0,790	0,818	0,764
Atyrau	72,5	99,696	73,8	79447,020	0,792	0,911	1,115	0,939	0,785
West Kazakhstan	71,7	99,699	80,4	30077,380	0,778	0,933	0,952	0,888	0,787
Jambyl	71,9	99,640	70,1	10229,890	0,782	0,898	0,772	0,817	0,764
Karaganda	70,9	99,720	72,0	25132,330	0,765	0,905	0,922	0,864	0,778
Kostanay	70,7	99,742	66,2	17472,290	0,762	0,886	0,862	0,837	0,764
Kyzylorda	71,9	99,764	68,0	17052,470	0,782	0,892	0,858	0,844	0,763
Mangistau	73,2	99,710	73,1	37956,050	0,803	0,908	0,991	0,901	0,798
South Kazakhstan	72,6	99,714	73,7	9889,400	0,793	0,910	0,767	0,823	0,769
Pavlodar	71,5	99,696	69,3	25647,020	0,775	0,896	0,926	0,866	0,784
North Kazakhstan	70,5	99,537	63,3	16468,750	0,758	0,875	0,852	0,828	0,762
East Kazakhstan	70,9	99,660	68,9	18549,870	0,765	0,894	0,872	0,844	0,777
Astana city	74,8	99,890	91,8	61742,190	0,830	0,972	1,072	0,958	0,842
Almaty city	75,3	99,852	96,4	59840,970	0,838	0,987	1,067	0,964	0,830

Note: prepared by the authors

In order to simplify the procedure for identifying the balance of regional development, we propose, as an alternative or additional key performance indicator, to apply the universal integrated indicator - the Human Development Index (HDI), widely used in international practice, also called the Human Development Index (HDI), reflecting the quality of life of the population. The main goal of the concept of human development is not the growth of the country's GDP, but the expansion of the possibilities for the development of the individual and the freedom of his choice. The basis of the concept of human development is the following postulate: the value of human life is not that man is capable of producing goods, but that he is the goal of this development.

In this study, using the example of 2016, we calculate the index for all regions of Kazakhstan and compare the dynamics of this index with 2006 - the last year of its official publication by region (Table 5).

In Kazakhstan, only the HDI country indicator is officially calculated, which averages the regional differences in terms of the quality of life and does not give a complete picture for the development of an adequate territorial policy for each region separately. Based on the calculation results, we group the territories according to the quality of life for the convenience of analysis (Table 6); ALE - here is the average life expectancy measured in years, PPP - is the purchasing power parity, measured in US dollars.

Table 6 - Ranking of regions by HDI for 2006 and 2016

Region	HDI, 2006	Region	HDI, 2016
Astana city	0,842	Almaty city	0,964
Almaty city	0,830	Astana city	0,958
Mangistau	0,798	Atyrau	0,939
Aktube	0,792	Mangistau	0,901
West Kazakhstan	0,787	West Kazakhstan	0,888
Atyrau	0,785	Aktube	0,869
Pavlodar	0,784	Pavlodar	0,866
Karaganda	0,778	Karaganda	0,864
East Kazakhstan	0,777	East Kazakhstan	0,844
South Kazakhstan	0,769	Kyzylorda	0,844
Almaty	0,764	Akmola	0,840
Kostanay	0,764	Kostanay	0,837
Jambyl	0,764	North Kazakhstan	0,828
Akmola	0,763	South Kazakhstan	0,823
Kyzylorda	0,763	Almaty	0,818
North Kazakhstan	0,762	Jambyl	0,817

Note: prepared by the authors

According to the results of Tables 5 and 6, the HDI in 2016 increased in comparison with 2006 in all regions of Kazakhstan, which indicates the growth of citizens' well-being, the growth of economies in the regions and, as a result, the improvement of the quality of life of the people of Kazakhstan. Leading in the ratings of 2006 and 2016 years Astana and Almaty, Atyrau, Mangystau, Aktube regions, West Kazakhstan region they are closely followed by Pavlodar, Karaganda regions and East Kazakhstan region. The remaining areas have less high indicators, while their place in the rating of 2016 changed compared to 2006.

Kazakhstan in 2006 was part of the group of countries with an average HDI of 0.782. Recall that all countries in the world, according to the classification used by UNDP, are ranked according to the level of the HDI into four groups:

- 1) with a very high HDI index  $\geq 0.9$ ;
- 2) with a high HDI index  $\geq 0.8$ ;
- 3) with an average of  $0.5 \leq \text{HDI} < 0.8$ ;
- 4) with a low HDI index  $< 0.5$ .

Along with the UNDP classification, some scientists proposed an alternative classification of countries, which found practical application:

- "1) countries with the highest level of human development (HDI 0.900 and above) - 25 countries;
- 2) advanced groups of countries with an average level of human development (HDI from 0.820 to 0.899) - 25 countries;
- 3) the second group of countries with an average level of human development (HDI from 0.735 to 0.819) - 50 countries;
- 4) the lowest group of countries with an average level of human development (HDI from 0.570 to 0.734) - 29 countries;
- 5) countries with a low level of human development (HDI from 0.450 to 0.569) - 26 countries;
- 6) countries with a critically low level of human development (HDI below 0.450) - 22 countries "[12].

According to UNDP classification in 2016, four regions of Kazakhstan were included in groups with a very high level of HDI. This city of Almaty (0.964), the city of Astana (0.958), Atyrau region (0.939) and Mangystau region (0.901). All the remaining fourteen regions had indexes above 0.8 and were included in the group with a high HDI. The lowest indicator for the level of the human development index in 2015 is the Zhambyl region (HDI = 0.817), which is 1.1799 ( $\approx 18\%$ ) less than the region with the highest Almaty city index (HDI = 0.964).

**Conclusions of the study.** Research on public management of regional development highlights various priority areas of regional policy, the choice of which most often corresponds to one or another scenario of development.

However, most regional scientists agree that given process of structural diversification of the economy, regional policies should be prioritized as a priority area of regional policy.

Despite the frequent use of the term "structural policy", it is still not established its established definition. In the most general form, structural policy is seen as the impact of government bodies on all types of economic structure [13]. And in this case, within the framework of the structural policy, industrial, innovative, investment and other types of policies will be singled out, and the goals and objectives of these types of policies will be based on the goals and objectives of economic restructuring.

Thus, balanced sustainable development in a crisis of the economy is impossible without interrelated regulation, by improving existing economic and legal mechanisms, the natural resource and industrial sector, which requires a comprehensive consideration of social, economic and environmental factors, optimization of consumption resources. The need to implement this approach is relevant for the regions of Kazakhstan, since the republic, having a significant part of the world's resources, still has an imbalance both between the needs of the region in resources and the availability of available sources of replenishment of resources, and between the existing material base and plans for its development; between the requirements of intensification of economic growth and the principles of sustainable economic development; between the real state of human capital and the needs of the modernized economy in labor resource.

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#### ҚАЗАҚСТАНДАҒЫ ӨНІРЛІК АЙЫРМАШЫЛЫҚТАР ҮРДІСТЕРІ ЖӘНЕ БАҒАЛАУ

**Аннотация.** Нарық жағдайында өңірлер инвестициялық ресурстар үшін (мемлекеттік, жеке және шетелдік), салық-төлеуші кәсіпорындарды тарту, сонымен бірге, барлық ресурстар көздері мен өткізу нарықтары үшін өзара сайысқа түседі. Сонымен бірге, өңірлер ұлттық және халықаралық нарықтарда өз алдына жеке субъект болып табылады. Аталмыш зерттеуде Қазақстан өңірлерінің әлеуметтік-экономикалық дамуының басты көрсеткіштері талданады, өңірлік бәсекеге қабілеттіліктің өлшемдерін анықтауда дәстүрлі және интегралды көрсеткіштерді есептей отырып, әдіснамалық бағыттар жүйеленеді.

**Түйін сөздер:** өңір, бәсекеге қабілеттілік, әлеуметтік-экономикалық жағдай, өңірлік ішкі өнім, өңірлік даму.

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## ОЦЕНКА И ТЕНДЕНЦИИ РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫХ РАЗЛИЧИЙ В КАЗАХСТАНЕ

**Аннотация.** В рыночных условиях регионы состязаются между собой за инвестиционные ресурсы (государственные, частные и иностранные), привлечение предприятий-налогоплательщиков, а также за все источники ресурсов и рынки сбыта. При этом регионы являются самостоятельными субъектами на национальных и международных рынках. В данном исследовании анализируются ключевые показатели социально-экономического развития регионов Казахстана, систематизируются методологические подходы к измерению региональной конкурентоспособности путем расчета традиционных и интегральных показателей.

**Ключевые слова:** регион, конкурентоспособность, социально-экономическое положение, валовый региональный продукт, региональное развитие.

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