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ABSTRACT

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

THE ROLE OF DEMOGRAPHIC PROCESSES IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

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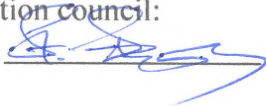
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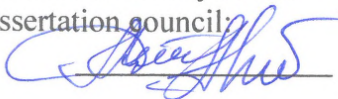
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GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESEARCH

Relevance and Degree of Study of the Topic. At the current stage of civilization, contradictions between the needs of the world's population, the economic capability, and the possibilities of preserving the planet's biodiversity without external interference have reached a critical level. Various scientific analyses have established that achieving sustainable development in the modern era is closely linked to the process of social and economic development of societies on a global scale. In this regard, sustainable development has become one of the priority directions of national and international policy.

The process of developing a sustainable development strategy includes an assessment of the situation, as well as the identification of prevailing trends in the fields of demographic, economic, environmental, and social development. This objective can only be achieved by taking demographic factors into account. Population is a key factor in sustainable development. Therefore, any sustainable development strategy requires consideration of demographic indicators such as population size, age structure, density, socio-economic structure, level of education, and migration flows. This is because demographic indicators directly affect resource consumption, the burden on infrastructure and ecosystems, as well as needs in the areas of healthcare, education, housing, and social protection. As is known, in 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the outcome document entitled “Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” by resolution. The document consists of 17 Goals and 169 targets, the implementation of which requires the solidarity of the entire world community around these objectives. The 2030 Agenda is a fundamental condition for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals.¹ The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are comprehensive and relevant to every country, regardless of its level of economic development and form of government. Issues such

¹ Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development // – New York: United Nations, 2015. – 41 p.

as population size, settlement, and social security, which are at the center of the concept of sustainable development, have always been the focus of researchers' attention. The challenges created by demographic transformation are among the most acute problems of the modern world.

The history of human development is inextricably linked to changes in population size and reproduction dynamics. The dynamics of the formation of the world's population have recently had a significant impact on the system of international relations and the adoption of political decisions. Demographic problems, which occupy a special place among the global problems of our time, cause the aggravation of almost all global problems of humanity.

Demographic development issues have always been a priority for the Republic of Azerbaijan. After the Republic of Azerbaijan restored its independence, the government implemented a consistent and purposeful policy in the demographic sphere. One of the important documents of this policy is the "Concept of Demographic Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan", approved by decree of National Leader Heydar Aliyev on February 13, 1996.² The "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development"³ and the "Socio-Economic Development Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2022–2026"⁴, which determine future development priorities, also specifically emphasize the importance of taking into account the role of demographic factors in the process of planning and implementing sustainable development.

In recent decades, a steady increase in the population of Azerbaijan has been observed. This increase has been accompanied by changes in the age structure, acceleration of urbanization

² "Azərbaycan Respublikasının Demografik İnkişaf Konsepsiyası"nın təsdiq edilməsi haqqında" Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidenti Heydər Əliyevin Fərmanı // Fərman, – 9 dekabr, – 1999. – Bakı: №290.

³ Azərbaycan Respublikasının Prezidenti İlham Əliyevin "Azərbaycan 2030: sosial-iqtisadi inkişafa dair Milli Prioritetlərin təsdiq edilməsi barədə" sərəncamı // Sərəncam, – Bakı. – 2 fevral, – 2021. – 8 s.

⁴ "Azərbaycan Respublikasının 2022-2026-cı illərdə sosial-iqtisadi inkişaf Strategiyası"nın təsdiq edilməsi haqqında Azərbaycan Respublikasının Prezidenti İlham Əliyevin Fərmanı // Fərman, – Bakı: – 22 iyul, – 2022. №3378. – 24 s.

processes, and an increase in migration activity. These factors have had a significant impact on the healthcare system, education, the labor market, infrastructure, and environmental protection. The formation of modern demographic patterns in the liberated economic regions of Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur is of particular importance. As a result of the 44-day Patriotic War, the restoration of the territorial integrity of the state and the revival of territories that had effectively remained uninhabited for a long period and had been deprived of infrastructure and life-support systems have become one of the priority directions of domestic policy at the present stage.

Currently, these territories are of great importance in terms of strategic demographic growth and sustainable development potential. Within the framework of the “Great Return”⁵ State Program, large-scale projects aimed at returning internally displaced persons to their native lands, establishing new residential areas and “smart” villages, restoring road, energy and water supply, education and healthcare infrastructure, creating new jobs, and improving the social welfare of the population are being implemented. In this context, the restoration of the demographic potential of the liberated territories has become an integral part of Azerbaijan’s sustainable development strategy.

Degree of Study of the Topic. Population growth and its dynamics have concerned the world community throughout history, as they determine the limits of socio-economic and environmental development. At various stages of social development, this problem became the subject of scientific research by philosophers and scholars. In the 18th–19th centuries, classical demographic schools, particularly T.Malthus, A.Quetelet, E.Ravenstein, and others, made significant contributions to the study of demographic dynamics and its regularities, as well as to the investigation of the impact of population reproduction and migration on economic development.⁶ Since the end of the 20th century, the problem of demographic

⁵ “Azərbaycan Respublikasının işğaldan azad edilmiş ərazilərinə Böyük Qayıdışa dair I Dövlət Proqramı”nın təsdiq edilməsi haqqında Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidentinin İlham Əliyev Fərmanı // Fərman, – Bakı: – 16 noyabr, – 2022. №3587.

⁶ Альпидовская, М.Л. К вопросу об устойчивости теории Томаса Мальтуса // Теоретическая экономика, –2020. №7, – с.69-77.

changes has been closely studied in relation to sustainable development. The works of J.Caldwell, N.Dyson, M.King, as well as studies by the World Bank and the Population Reference Bureau, analyze the impact of urbanization, migration, and population ageing on socio-economic sustainability.⁷ In this regard, particular attention is paid to the relationship between population size and resource consumption, as well as to the achievement of sustainable development goals and the impact of demographic factors on them. In the 20th century and the first decades of the 21st century, population size has been considered a key factor of global sustainability. In this regard, it is necessary to note the activities of the Club of Rome, which played a major role in considering population size as a central factor of sustainable development and in determining the scale of consumption, resource use, and environmental impact. In the report “The Limits to Growth” (1972), prepared by a group of scientists led by D.Meadows, the demographic factor was considered one of the main factors, since excessive population growth accelerates the depletion of resources and increases the pressure on the environment.⁸ The reports “Mankind at the Turning Point” (1974), “Beyond the Limits” (1992), “Factor Four” (1995), and “Come On!” (2018) emphasized the close relationship between population growth dynamics and economic development, technological progress, and environmental sustainability.⁹ The necessity of investment in demographic stability, education, healthcare, and gender equality was highlighted as conditions for a sustainable future.

The Concept of Sustainable Development received its scientific formulation in the report “Our Common Future” (1987) of the Brundtland Commission. Thus, in this report, sustainable development was defined as a model of development that meets the

⁷ Медков, В.М. Демография: учебник (Высшее образование) / В.М.Медков. Москва: Инфра-М, – 2003. – 544 с.

⁸ Meadows, D.H. Beyond the Limits / D.H.Meadows, J.Randers, D.L.Meadows. Chelsea Green Publishing, – 1992. – 300 p.

⁹ Weizsäcker, E.U von. Come On! Capitalism, Short-termism, Population and the Destruction of the Planet – a report to the Club of Rome / E.U von. Weizsäcker, AWijkman. – Amazon: Springer, – 2018. – 256 p.

needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.¹⁰

The demographic aspects (healthcare, education, gender equality, urbanization, migration) are emphasized as the key determinants of sustainability in the documents “Agenda 21” (1992) and the Sustainable Development Goals (2015). Research conducted in this field covers the relationship between population size and resource consumption, the impact of migration processes on the labor market, the impact of urbanization on spatial development, and the impact of population ageing on healthcare and social protection systems.¹¹

The founder of the concept of sustainable development and ecological civilization in Azerbaijan is Academician U.K.Alakbarov. In the works of Academician Urkhan Alakbarov, including “Fundamentals of Human Development,” “Fundamentals of Sustainable Development and Management of Ecological Civilization,” “Fundamentals of Inclusive Development Management,”¹² and other scientific works, extensive reference is made to this topic, and the scientific foundations of the concept have been developed. In his works, U.K.Alakbarov presents the fundamental scientific and practical foundations of sustainable development and ecological civilization as the goals of sustainable development. The author particularly emphasizes the environmental aspects of globalization, the problems of transition to sustainable development of modern society, and the significant role of culture, education, science, and technology in this process. The works of H.B.Zardabi,

¹⁰ Евтеев, С.А. Наше общее будущее: Доклад Международной комиссии по окружающей среде и развитию (МКОСР)/ Пер. с англ. Прогресс, 1989, 321 с.

¹¹ Доклад Конференции ООН по окружающей среде и развитию // Резолюции, принятые на Конференции. ООН: Нью-Йорк: – Рио-де-Жанейро: – 3-14 июня, – 1992. – Том I. – 1993. – 520 с.

¹² Ələkbərov, U.K. İnsan inkişafının əsasları / U.K.Ələkbərov. – Bakı: Aspoliqraf, – 2016. – 280 s.; Ələkbərov, U.K. Davamlı inkişaf və ekoloji sivilizasiyanın idarə edilməsinin əsasları / U.K.Ələkbərov. – Bakı: Təhsil, – 2017. – 176 s.; Ələkbərov, U.K. İnklüziv inkişafın idarə edilməsinin əsasları / U.K.Ələkbərov. – Bakı: Təhsil, – 2018. – 216 s.

Sh.M.Muradov, Z.N.Eminov, K.K.Shukurov, R.D.Efendiyev¹³, and other scholars occupy an important place in the study of demographic processes in Azerbaijan. These works play a key role in understanding and shaping the demographic policy of the country. They provide the necessary data and analyses for developing strategies aimed at balanced economic growth, social well-being, and environmental protection.

Object and Subject of the Research. The research object of the dissertation is demographic processes (birth, death, migration, etc.). The subject of the research is the methods, approaches, and mechanisms for taking demographic data into account in socio-economic development and for developing strategies and forecasts.

The purpose and objectives of the study. The purpose of the research is to determine the importance and role of demographic indicators in the processes of planning and managing sustainable development, and to identify mechanisms for their effective use for socio-economic growth and environmental balance. In order to achieve the objectives set in the research, the following research tasks need to be addressed:

- To examine the scientific and theoretical foundations of demographic processes in the context of sustainable development and the key demographic indicators related to sustainable development indices;

- To determine the comparative characteristics and features of indicators characterizing population growth and family planning;

¹³ Muradov, Ş.M. “Azərbaycan Respublikasının demoqrafik inkişafı: tarixi dəyişiklikləri, yeni meyillər, problemlər” (1828-2020-ci illər) / Ş.M.Muradov. – Bakı: Elm və Bilik. – 2021. – 7 s.; Эминов, З.Н. Изменение демографической ситуации в Азербайджане // Актуальные проблемы гуманитарных и естественных наук, – 2011. №1, – с.95-100.; Шукуров, К.К. Демографические процессы в Азербайджане: историографические аспекты // Институт Истории имени А.А.Бакиханова Национальной академии наук Азербайджана, – Баку: – 2024. – с.163-168.; Эфендиев, Р.Дж. Важнейшие аспекты демографического развития в Азербайджане за 25 лет независимости республики // Р.Дж.Эфендиев, Н.Асадов. / Экономика и государство, – 2017. №6, – с.51-58.

- To study the relationship between population growth and consumption factors (energy efficiency, carbon emissions, ecological footprint values);
- To analyze the dynamics of changes in the “ecological footprint” and biocapacity indicators of Azerbaijan compared with other countries as a result of global climate change;
- To analyze the main priority directions of the demographic policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan and conduct a comparative analysis of the demographic dependency ratio;
- To identify the main trends and prospects of demographic processes in the liberated territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Research methods. During the research, depending on the objectives, theoretical, comparative, statistical, and empirical methods were widely used in the dissertation. The index method (calculation of demographic process indices, demographic burden index), historical-comparative method, and focus groups (study of attitudes towards demographic policy) were used in the research. Taken together, these methods provide a comprehensive understanding of demographic changes and their causes.

Provisions submitted to the defense are:

- Theoretical and methodological aspects of the relationship between demography and sustainable development;
- The role of the demographic factor as a system-forming element in the planning and management of sustainable development has been scientifically substantiated;
- The characteristic features of demographic processes affecting the formation of human potential have been studied as an important factor in the strategic planning of sustainable development;
- The interrelationships between demographic parameters and factors and economic, social, and environmental indicators have been identified in the context of the concept of sustainable development and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;
- The main characteristics of demographic transformation processes in Azerbaijan and their impact on modern family planning, as well as on the population reproduction process, have been identified;

- Proposals for improving the demographic policy of Azerbaijan have been developed using forecasting methods in the context of implementing programs related to the return of the population to the liberated territories of the economic regions of Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur.

Scientific novelty of the research.

The scientific novelty of the dissertation lies in identifying the main regularities of demographic processes in the context of sustainable development.

- For the first time, a systematic analysis of the role of demographic processes in the planning and management of sustainable development has been conducted.

- The theoretical and methodological foundations for integrating demographic indicators into economic, social, and environmental policies have been developed.

- The mechanisms through which demographic factors affect regional development strategies, particularly in the liberated territories, have been identified using the example of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Theoretical and practical significance of the study. The theoretical significance of the dissertation lies in developing a methodology for the analysis and forecasting of demographic processes in the context of sustainable development, as well as in substantiating new management approaches. *The practical significance of the research* is expressed in the development of recommendations for government authorities, businesses, and social institutions on the effective use of demographic data in the strategic planning and management of social development. In this regard, the results of the dissertation may be applied in the scientific field, public administration, business, and social policy, and may contribute to enhancing the sustainability of socio-economic systems.

Approbation and application. The results of the research have been published in scientific journals and conference proceedings. At the same time, the main provisions of the dissertation have been presented at international and Republican scientific conferences, symposia, and round tables. The main

provisions of the dissertation have been presented by the author to date in 7 scientific articles and at 8 international conferences. The scientific works have been published in publications in Azerbaijan and other countries, approved by national and international scientific attestation bodies.

The title of the institution where the research was carried out. The work was performed at the Department of “Sustainable Development” of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Total length of the dissertation in characters, with the length of individual structural sections specified. Total length of the dissertation in characters, with the length of individual structural sections specified. The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a list of references, and a list of abbreviations. The introduction comprises 7 pages (14,152 characters); Chapter I, 40 pages (62,389 characters); Chapter II, 61 pages (93,433 characters); Chapter III, 36 pages (55,159 characters); and the conclusion, 3 pages (5,759 characters). The total length of the dissertation (excluding the title page, table of contents, figures, tables, list of references, and list of abbreviations) is 230,892 characters.

MAIN CONTENT OF THE WORK

In the “**Introduction**” of the dissertation, the relevance and degree of development of the topic, the object and subject of the research, the aim and objectives of the research, and the research methods are defined; the main provisions submitted for defense, the scientific novelty of the research, and the theoretical and practical significance of the research are presented; and the approbation of the research work and the structure of the dissertation are indicated.

The first chapter of the dissertation is entitled “**Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of Managing Demographic Processes in the Context of the Concept of Sustainable Development**” and consists of three paragraphs. This chapter presents the main stages in the formation of the theoretical foundations of sustainable development as the main paradigm for the

development of modern society, as well as the relationship between demographic processes and sustainable development indicators under different conditions and during different periods.

In the first paragraph of the first chapter, entitled ***“Modern Development Concepts and Their Role in Management,”*** the evolutionary stages of the formation of various approaches and concepts in the development of society have been studied, and a comprehensive analysis has been conducted. Modern development concepts are aimed at integrating economic growth, social well-being, and environmental sustainability. These concepts are more complex in nature, take social and environmental boundaries into account, and require a multidisciplinary approach. Among the important development concepts of the 21st century are sustainable development, ecological civilization, human development, inclusive development, circular economy, digital development, and globally equitable development.

The beginning of the formation of the concept of sustainable development is generally attributed to the 1960s–1970s and is closely associated with the activities of the Club of Rome. The First World Conference on the Human Environment was held in Stockholm in 1972 as an event dedicated to the discussion of environmental problems. In 1983, the United Nations International Commission on Environment and Development was established to determine the content and conditions for the transition of the world economy to a sustainable development mode.¹⁴ The scientific definition of the concept was first developed in 1987 by the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), headed by Gro Harlem Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway. The Brundtland Commission defined sustainable development as development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.¹⁵ Sustainable development is a long-term development model that enables

¹⁴ Klarin, T. Davamlı inkişaf konsepsiyası: Başlanğıcdan müasir məsələlərə qədər // – Zaqreb: Beynəlxalq İqtisadiyyat və Biznes İcmalı, – 2018, cild. 21, – s.67-94.

¹⁵ Quzey, V.A. Davamlı inkişaf paradıqmasının formalaşması // Maliyyə Tədqiqatları, – Bakı. – 2021. №4(73), – s.56-72.

sustainable economic growth through the joint participation of society, business, and the state, while assuming both social and environmental responsibility. The concept of inclusive development (Inclusive Development) is based on the principle that economic growth should be ensured not only through aggregate indicators but also through equal access to opportunities for the well-being of all population groups.¹⁶ Unlike the sustainable development model, in this model, economic growth does not serve as the main priority; rather, it involves a paradigmatic critique of the anthropocentric world and a call for the adoption of an “ecocentric” world, which is not sufficiently emphasized in the concept of sustainable development. Inclusive development focuses particularly on “inclusive economic growth” and “inclusive wealth growth” based on the principles of social justice, protection of human rights, and compatibility with the environment. This concept can serve not only as an effective alternative to neoliberal capitalism but also as an adjustment and complementary approach to the sustainable development model. Therefore, the conceptualization and development of development models based on the principles of inclusive development appear to be important.

In the second paragraph of the first chapter, entitled ***“Factors Assessing Sustainable Inclusive Development,”*** it is noted that a system of indices is used to assess the sustainable development of countries: the Human Development Index, Gender Development Index, Gender Inequality Index, and Inclusive Development Index. A specific system of criteria and parameters has been developed for measuring each index. These indices demonstrate the level of development of countries during a certain period, and each serves to assess the extent to which countries have achieved the Sustainable Development Goals. The indicators of the Human Development Index are classified into three main blocks: health, education, and

¹⁶ Ələkbərov, U.K. Azərbaycan Respublikası və keçmiş SSRİ ölkələrində davamlı inklüziv inkişaf: müqayisəli təhlil // – Bakı: Dövlət İdarəçiliyi: nəzəriyyə və təcrübə. Elmi-nəzəri jurnal, – 2020. №1(69), – s.123-138.

economic development.¹⁷ An increase in the Human Development Index indicators has been recorded in Azerbaijan, which is associated with political, economic, and social stability in Azerbaijan's policies.

The Gender Development Index (GDI) is an indicator developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that compares the level of human development of women and men in a country. According to the Gender Development Index, Azerbaijan belongs to the second group, where the level of equality is moderate.

The Gender Inequality Index (GII) is a composite indicator developed by the UNDP that measures the level of gender equality in countries around the world across three main categories: reproductive health, civil rights and opportunities, as well as economic activity and participation in the labor market.¹⁸

Inclusive Development Index. The Inclusive Sustainable Development Index (IDI), presented at the World Economic Forum (WEF) held in Davos in 2017, was introduced as a systematic initiative aimed at strengthening cooperation between the public and private sectors, promoting sustainable and inclusive economic progress, and shaping the future of the global economy.¹⁹

In the third paragraph of the first chapter, entitled ***“Demographic Indicators Affecting Sustainable Inclusive Development,”*** it is noted that a comprehensive analysis of demographic indicators reflecting the main diagnostic characteristics of the population is of particular importance. This subchapter presents the emergence of the concept of “demography” and an analysis of the scientific foundations of various stages of demographic science, from Thomas Robert Malthus's theory of neo-

¹⁷ Human Development Index (HDI) [Electronic resource] / The official website of United Nations Development Programme. – 2022. URL: <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI>

¹⁸ Birləşmiş Millətlər Təşkilatının İnkişaf Proqramı. Gender inkişaf indeksi (GDI): [Elektron resurs] / – Nyu York: BMTİP. Giriş rejimi: <https://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-development-index-gdi> – (müraciət tarixi: 12.09.2025).

¹⁹ Ələkbərov, U.K. Azərbaycanın sosial siyasəti Davos Dünya İqtisadi Forumunun təsisçisi və prezidenti Klaus Martin Şvabın qlobal hesabatında // Azərbaycan. – 2019, – 16 may. №106(8129), – s.3.

Malthusianism to the modern period.²⁰ The modern demographic transition theory, the second demographic transition theory, the demographic cycle theory, biodemographic theories, and ecodemographic theories are theories that explain demographic processes and forecast the dynamics of population size and distribution.²¹ Based on changes in the stages of demographic theories, the patterns of changes in population size, structure, and reproduction under the influence of social, economic, and historical factors are studied. In accordance with the results of demographic statistics, demographic indicators that directly (birth and death rates, migration) and indirectly (education level, economic development, socio-cultural changes) affect the population are identified. Population reproduction is classified into two types: traditional (primitive) and modern.²² Different types of population reproduction represent successive stages in the demographic history of humanity. In this regard, the system of demographic relations of the population is renewed, and the manageability, efficiency, and sustainability of the reproductive process increase.

The second chapter of the dissertation is entitled **“The Role of Demographic Policy and Consumption Characteristics in the Planning and Management of Sustainable Inclusive Development”** and consists of four paragraphs. This chapter is devoted to the analysis of indicators that are important for ensuring demographic development and forming a sustainable inclusive society. The first subchapter of the second chapter, entitled **“Current Trends and Transformations in Demographic Growth Policy,”** notes that studying the dynamics of population growth in Azerbaijan

²⁰ Щеголевский, В.А. Глобальный демографический кризис с позиций теории Т.Мальтуса и неомальтузианцев // Историко-экономические исследования. – 2016. – Т. 17, №2, – с.278-296. DOI: 10.17150/2308-2588.2016.17(2).278-296.

²¹ Минакова, И.В. Демографические процессы и управление ими в обеспечении социально-экономического развития в современных условиях / И.В.Минакова, А.С.Шевякин, Д.А.Шукина. // – Алтай: Вестник Алтайской академии экономики и права. – 2024. №6-2, – с.330-339.

²² Михеева, А.Р. Демографический фактор развития общества: оценки и идеи // Вестн. Новосиб. гос. ун-та: Социально-экономические науки. – 2014. Т. 14, вып. 2. – с. 155-161.

is of great strategic importance. The presented dynamics covering the period from 1960 to 2024 clearly demonstrate the influence of historical, political, social, and cultural factors on these processes. Although the population growth rate was high during the period under study, a slight decrease in the population growth rate has been observed in recent years due to a number of reasons.²³

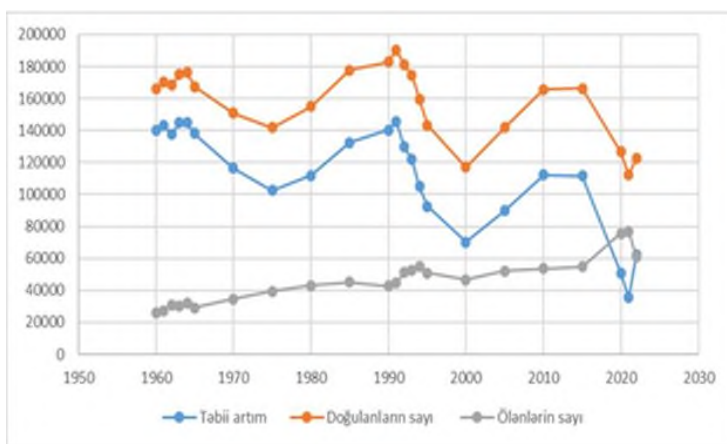


Figure 1. *Dynamics of the Natural Increase, Births, and Deaths in the Republic of Azerbaijan*

Source: *State Statistical Committee*

In recent years, a decline has been observed in the total fertility rate indicators in Azerbaijan. Figure 2 shows that while in 1960 an average of 7.1 children were born per woman of reproductive age (15–49 years) in Azerbaijan, this figure was 1.6–1.4 in 2020–2024. According to international standards, the optimal total fertility rate is 2.1 or more children per woman. If this trend continues, the population will not be able to maintain natural growth and reproductive processes.²⁴

²³ Халафли, Х. [и др.] Региональные особенности динамики рождаемости в Азербайджане // *Azerbaijan Medical Journal*, – 2025. №1, – с.122-126. <https://doi.org/10.34921/amj.2025.1.021>

²⁴ Şükürov, K.K. Azərbaycan əhalisi: öyrənilməsi tarixi və qaynaqları (qədim zamanlardan müasir dövrdək) / K.K.Şükürov. – Bakı: Elm, – 2004. – 974 s.

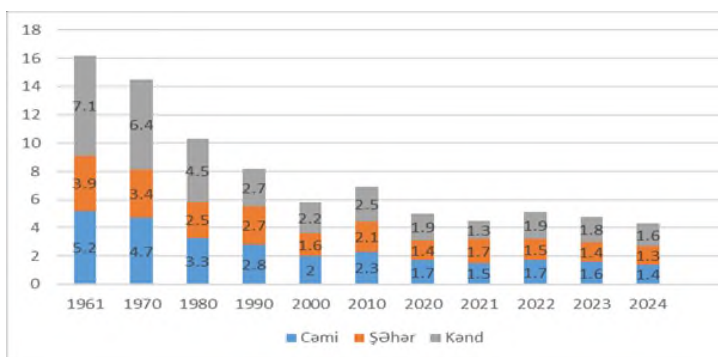


Figure 2. Total Fertility Rate Indicators in Azerbaijan
Source: State Statistical Committee

Since the 1990s, life expectancy in Azerbaijan has increased compared with previous years. Throughout all the years covered by the study, the life expectancy of women has been several years higher than that of men. The highest figures were recorded in 2023–2024 (men – 73.5 years, women – 78.4 years). Both internal and external migration processes in Azerbaijan play an important role in the country’s demographic development, particularly among the younger generation. The highest figures were observed in the 1990s (49%), while in subsequent years, particularly since 2005, a stable trend has been recorded.²⁵ Azerbaijan maintains a demographic advantage in the region due to its young and dynamic population. However, measures in population policy are necessary in the future due to the risk of population ageing and the decline in the birth rate.

In the second subchapter of the second chapter, entitled “*Modern Trends and Main Characteristics of Family Planning Policy*,” the total fertility rate, gross and net reproduction rates, maternal and infant mortality, marriage and divorce rates, and indicators of the distribution of households by the number of children, which affect the implementation of family policy, have been studied. A declining trend has been recorded in the dynamics of changes in Azerbaijan’s total birth rate indicators. While this indicator was 31.2% in 1950, or 31 children

²⁵ Эминов, З.Н.Изменение демографической ситуации в Азербайджане // Актуальные проблемы гуманитарных и естественных наук, – 2011. №1, – с.95-100.

per 1,000 people, it gradually decreased in subsequent years. This clearly demonstrates the transition from a patriarchal structure to a nuclear (small-family) structure.²⁶

Modern patterns of population reproduction have emerged in connection with the decline in the number of children in families, emancipation processes, and the increase in education and family planning. A declining trend has also been observed in both gross and net reproduction rates. In 2020–2024, the values of both rates were below 1, which complicates population reproduction. The Republic of Azerbaijan was characterized by the highest infant mortality rates in the 1950s (67.6 per 1,000 live births). In subsequent years, a decline in these indicators was observed, reaching 11.2 in 2010, 9.8 in 2020, and 7.5 in the following years.²⁷ Compared with other years, maternal mortality rates were observed to be approximately three times higher than the accepted standard in 1995 (37 per 100,000 live births) and 2000 (37.6 per 100,000 live births).²⁸

In the following years, a positive trend was observed; however, an increase in the indicators has been recorded since 2023. According to data presented in the reports of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the main causes include an increase in the number of cesarean sections performed frequently without clear medical indications, delayed seeking of qualified medical care, complications and postpartum infections, as well as the mother's young or advanced age. Women often do not seek medical services and remain outside the healthcare system, which contributes to an

²⁶ Шукюров, К.К. Демографическое развитие Азербайджана после обретения независимости: основные периоды и их характеристики // Демографические факторы адаптации населения к глобальным социально-экономическим вызовам. Сборник научных трудов. – Екатеринбург: Институт экономики УрО РАН, – 2023. – с.107-112.

²⁷ Архангельский, В.Н. Здоровье как фактор реализации репродуктивных намерений / А.А.Савина, В.Н.Архангельский, Е. В. Землянова // Здоровье мегаполиса. – 2024. – Т. 5, вып. 4, ч. 2. – с. 305-315. DOI: 10.47619/2713-2617.zm.2024.v.5i4p2;305-315

²⁸ Bianchi, S.M. A Demographic Perspective on Family Change // Journal of Family Theory & Review. – 2014. №6, – p.35-44. DOI: 10.1111/jftr.12029. [DOI] [PMC free article]

increase in both maternal and infant mortality.²⁹ Comprehensive measures are being implemented to prevent these outcomes, protect maternal health, and minimize risks.

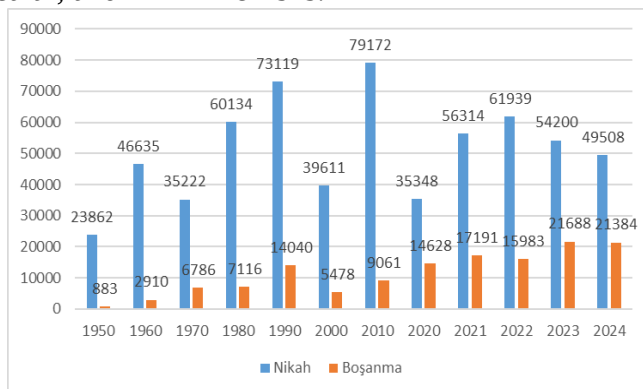


Figure 3. *Number of Marriages and Divorces in the Republic of Azerbaijan*
Source: *State Statistical Committee*

Based on the dynamics of changes in the ratio of officially registered marriages and divorces in Azerbaijan between 1950 and 2024 presented in Figure 3, the period from 1950 to 1980 was characterized by a lower divorce rate relative to the marriage rate compared with other years. In subsequent years, the ratio of divorces to marriages began to increase. However, in the 1990s, a sharp decline in the number of marriages and an increase in the number of divorces were observed. This was a consequence of the serious repercussions of the transition period in Azerbaijan. While 60,028 marriages were registered in 1993, this figure decreased to 38,572 in 1996, while divorce rates also increased.³⁰

It should be noted that in recent years, marriage and divorce rates have been increasing in parallel.³¹ The main causes of this situation include changes in attitudes toward marriage, a paradigm shift from

²⁹ UNFPA & Səhiyyə Nazirliyi. Reproduktiv Sağlamlıq və Ailə Planlaşdırması Proqramı // – Bakı: – 2009-2020.

³⁰ Aliyeva, Y.N. Dichotomy of Family Relations of Azerbaijani Society in the Process of Globalization. SocioEconomic Challenges, Volume 1, Issue 4, 2017, p.104-116.

³¹ Solsona, M. The second demographic transition from a gender perspective. Innovation // The European Journal of Social Science Research. – 1998. №11, – p.211-25.

“preserving the family at any cost” toward prioritizing personal relationships, women’s economic independence, the role of the media and the Internet, unplanned early marriages, and the simplification of legal procedures.³²

In the third subchapter of the second chapter, entitled “*Dynamics of Changes in Demographic and Consumption Factors*,” it is noted that energy efficiency is a set of organizational, economic, and technological measures aimed at increasing the importance of the rational use of energy resources in all areas of activity.³³ Energy indicators are an important tool for analyzing the relationship between economic and human activities, energy consumption, and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. To calculate this indicator, data on total annual electricity consumption divided by the population of each country are used.

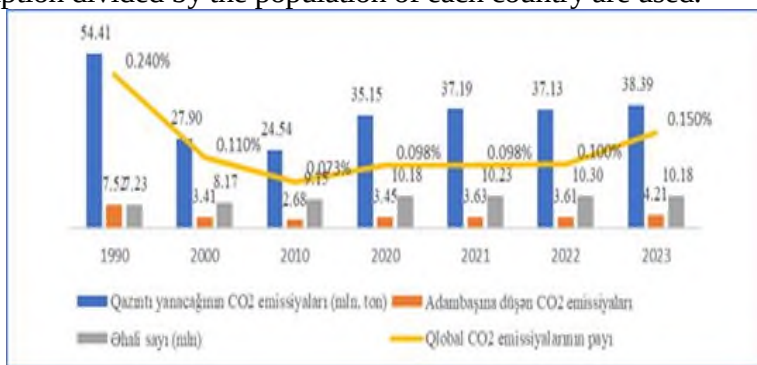


Figure 4. Ratio of Population Size and Per Capita (CO₂) Emissions in Azerbaijan

Source: World Bank, 2024

Although Azerbaijan is an oil and gas country, the volume of greenhouse gas emissions per capita has steadily decreased over the years. Figure 4 illustrates the relationship between four main indicators characteristic of sustainable development. The most

³² Корчагина Т.А. Брачность и разводимость как показатели демографической безопасности страны. Международный журнал гуманитарных и естественных наук, – 2024, т. 7-1 (94), с.177-181.

³³ Alakbarov, U.K. [et.al.] Energy efficiency as an indicator of sustainable development policy // – Canada: The Azerbaijan experience paper Journal of Sustainable Development, – 2017. Vol.10, №3, – p.187-193.

important diagnostic indicators are CO₂ emissions per capita, population size, CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels, and the share of global CO₂ emissions. The highest CO₂ emissions (7.52 tons per capita) were recorded in the 1990s as a result of the intensive development of the oil, gas, and fuel industries. In the following years, a declining trend was observed in these indicators. In 1990, Azerbaijan's share of global CO₂ emissions was 0.240%, meaning that Azerbaijan accounted for 0.24% of global emissions. In 2023, Azerbaijan's share of total global emissions was 0.15%, which is quite low compared with other countries. Figure 7 shows that Azerbaijan has the lowest indicators in the dynamics of CO₂ emissions among some CIS countries, and from 2011 to 2023, the indicators remained relatively stable, ranging between 0.15 and 0.17. It should be noted that developed countries have approximately 0.2 kg/CO₂. In 2023, Turkmenistan significantly increased its indicator (0.64) compared with previous years (0.42–0.47).

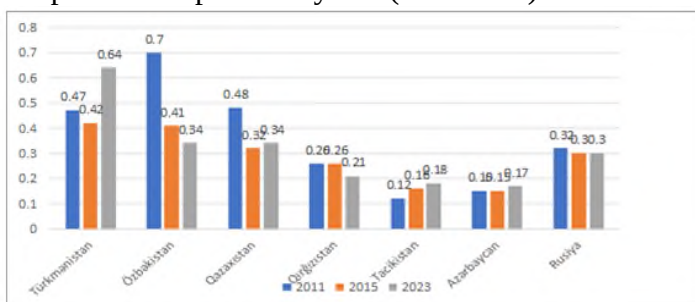


Figure 5. *Dynamics of Changes in Greenhouse Gas Emissions into the Atmosphere per Unit of GDP at a Value of One US Dollar (PPP) in Some CIS Countries, kg*

Source: World Bank, 2024

The main reasons for these changes are dependence on raw materials, energy efficiency, and the use of outdated technologies and equipment. Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, however, demonstrate the opposite trend.³⁴ In 2011, these countries recorded the highest

³⁴ Gubadov, M.N. Regional features of sustainable development in the context of global climate change // 7th CEO International Social Science Congress, – Uzbekistan: – 2023. – p.151-154.

indicators, but in subsequent years, a significant decline in the indicators was observed. The other countries presented in the table also demonstrate a similar trend, with greenhouse gas emissions declining dynamically in recent years. The main reason for the positive trend characteristic of the Azerbaijani model is the diversification of the country's economy. Over the years, Azerbaijan has acceded to numerous international conventions and protocols, using modern, innovative technologies, equipment, and management methods in combating climate change.³⁵ After ratifying the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1995 and the Kyoto Protocol to the Convention in 2000, Azerbaijan joined international agreements aimed at mitigating the negative effects of global climate change. Our country ratified the Paris Agreement in October 2016. In the long term, Azerbaijan plans to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

The fourth subchapter of the second chapter is entitled "*The Role of Population Growth and Consumption Culture in Sustainable Development.*" This subchapter analyzes a target model of social development based on the principles of ensuring a balance between environmental protection and resource use. The concept of "consumption culture" is genetically related to the concept of a "consumer society." The culture of production and consumption determines such parameters of sustainable development as the ecological footprint, through which the relationship between economic development and its impact on the environment can be analyzed. The ecological footprint is measured directly in global hectares (gha) by comparing the ecological footprint of consumption (EF – ecological footprint) and the biocapacity (BC – biocapacity) of the territory.³⁶

³⁵ Mustafazade, Sh.A. Demographic features and energy efficiency as factors of sustainable development // Student Scientific Community, Higher School Of State Audit Lomonosov Moscow State University, Annual International Conference "Carpe Scientiam"– Moscow: Courses Of International Business In, New Economic Paradigm. – 30th November, – 2022, – 136 p.

³⁶ Саушева О.С. Экологический след современных социально-экономических систем: измерение и тенденции. Научный журнал НИУ ИТМО. Серия "Экономика и экологический менеджмент", – 2020. № 3, 89-97 с.

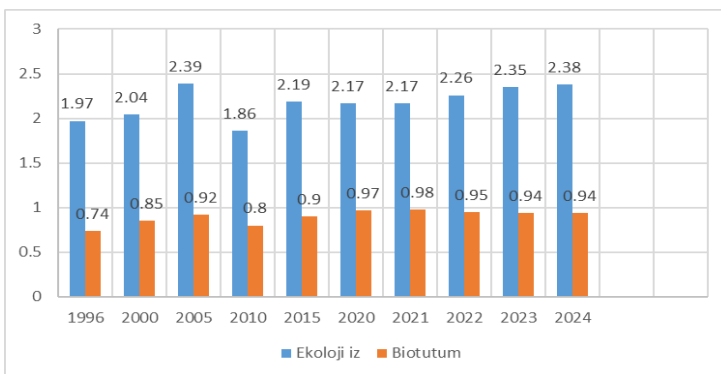


Figure 6. *Dynamics of Changes in the Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Indicators of Azerbaijan (gha per capita)*
Source: Global Footprint Network

Figure 6 shows the dynamics of changes in Azerbaijan's ecological footprint indicators from 1996 to 2024, expressed in global hectares (gha) per capita.³⁷ According to the existing classification, an ecological footprint of 1.6–1.7 gha per capita is considered an acceptable environmental burden. On average, the global ecological footprint is approximately 2.6–2.8 gha per capita, while in EU countries it is approximately 4.5 gha per capita, and in the USA it is 7–8 gha per capita, etc.³⁸

The ecological footprint for Azerbaijan varying within the range of 1.97–2.38 gha per capita indicates that it represents a moderate burden at an acceptable level for the country. As is known, the main factors shaping Azerbaijan's ecological footprint include energy and industry (burning of fossil fuels, increases in CO₂ and methane concentrations), water resources (pollution of transboundary rivers, loss of drinking water), forests (only 0.12 hectares per capita), and others. On average, the global ecological standard for biocapacity per capita is approximately 1.6.

³⁷ Hübətov, F.D. Azərbaycan Respublikasında iqlim dəyişmələrinin təsirlərinin yumşaldılması tədbirləri. Monoqrafiya / F.D.Hübətov. – Bakı. – 2021. – 229 s.

³⁸ Ekologiya və Təbii Sərvətlər Nazirliyinin Dövlət Proqramları hesabatı: [Elektron resurs] // Ekologiya və Təbii Sərvətlər Nazirliyinin rəsmi internet saytı. – Bakı. – 2024. URL: <https://eco.gov.az/az/ekoloji-siyaset/dovlet-proqramlari>

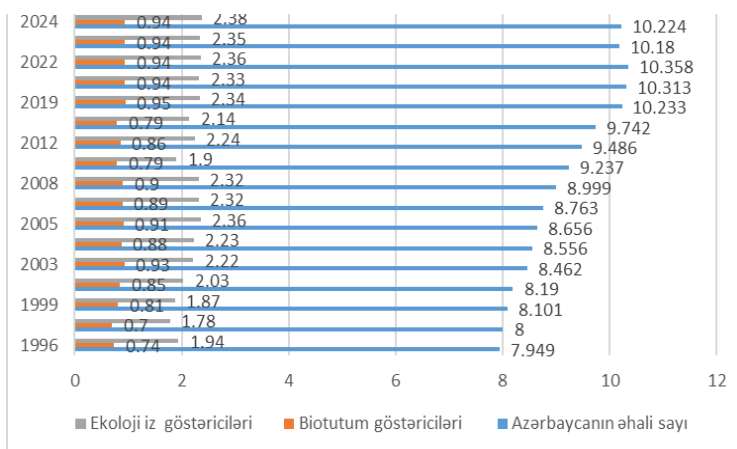


Figure 7. Ratio of Population Size to Biocapacity and Ecological Footprint Indicators in Azerbaijan

Source: Global Footprint Network

Figure 7 shows that in 1996, the population of Azerbaijan was 7.7262 million people, the ecological footprint was 1.97 gha per capita, and biocapacity was 0.74 gha per capita, while in 2020, the population was 9.9741 million people, the ecological footprint was 2.17 gha per capita, and biocapacity was 0.97 gha per capita. In 1998, despite the increase in population compared with the entire period under consideration, the lowest indicators of biocapacity (0.70 gha per capita) and ecological footprint (1.78 gha per capita) were recorded. A similar trend is observed in other periods: the population increases, while the biocapacity and ecological footprint indicators remain stable. It should be noted that the increase in the ecological deficit during 1996–2008 was associated with excessive consumption related to the transition and modernization phase of the Azerbaijani economy, the loss of 20 percent of the territory, population density, and other factors; however, in subsequent years, against the background of increasing population growth, ecological deficit indicators began to decline, particularly in 2010.

In subsequent years, although the population of Azerbaijan increased, no significant increase was observed in its ecological footprint or biocapacity. This trend indicates that the increase in ecological footprint indicators is related not to population growth,

but to the level and culture of consumption in society. The efficient and careful use of resources both in daily life and in production, as well as the use of environmentally friendly and modern technologies, contributes to positive dynamics in this area. The ratio of Azerbaijan's population size to biocapacity and ecological footprint indicators is an important indicator in terms of the country's environmental sustainability and the level of resource use.

The **third chapter** is entitled “**Assessment of the Prospects of Azerbaijan's Demographic Policy in the Context of the Transition to Sustainable Development**” and consists of three subchapters. This chapter is devoted to the analysis of the main directions of the demographic policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the identification of new trends.

The first subchapter of the third chapter, entitled “*Main Directions and New Trends in Azerbaijan's Demographic Policy in the Modern Period,*” states that the objectives of demographic policy and systems of measures are determined by existing ideological concepts, the characteristics of the social system, the level of governance and economic development, resource capacities, quality of life, cultural and religious norms and traditions, the stage of demographic transition, and trends in the area under study. In Azerbaijan, there are concepts and state programs adopted by the government in the field of demographic policy. State demographic policy in Azerbaijan is implemented through the activities of various government bodies and the adoption of relevant programs. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population, the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs, and the Heydar Aliyev Foundation play a key role in this process.³⁹ The main results of Azerbaijan's demographic policy show that activities in this area are being continued through state programs, international cooperation, and the role of the state, and have a long-term perspective.

³⁹ Мехдиева, У.М. Роль неправительственных организаций в публичной дипломатии (на примере Фонда Гейдара Алиева) // Мировая политика. – 2018. №1, – с.24-32. DOI: 10.25136/2409-8671.2018.1.25428 URL: https://nbpublish.com/library_read_article.php?id=25428

The second subchapter of the third chapter, entitled ***“Comparative analysis of demographic dependency indicators of the Republic of Azerbaijan”*** notes that the concept of the demographic dependency ratio is used to comprehensively assess the demographic situation of a country. The demographic dependency ratio is the ratio of the number of unemployed people to the number of economically active people and is calculated as the sum of the potential and pension burden. The following age groups are used when calculating the demographic dependency ratio: population below working age (0–14 years); working-age population (15–64 years); older working-age population (65 years and above).⁴⁰ There are three types of demographic dependency ratios: child dependency ratio, old-age dependency ratio, and total dependency ratio. All three are usually multiplied by 100.

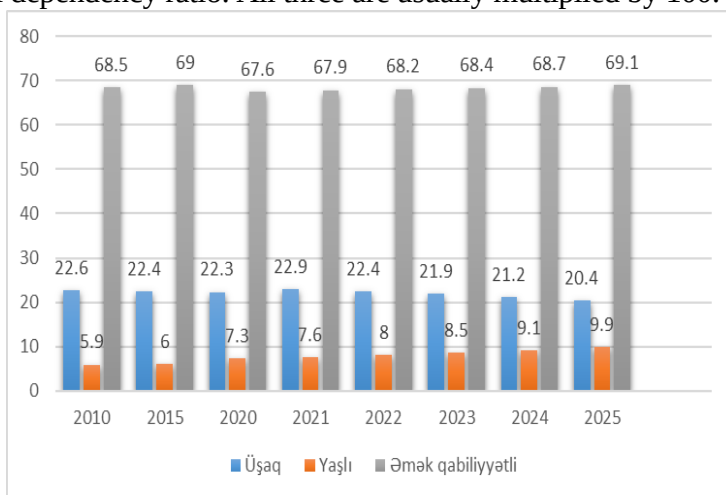


Figure 8. *Indicators of the Shares of Children, Older Persons, and Working-Age Population in Azerbaijan, 2012–2024, %*
Source: State Statistical Committee

Figure 8 shows that the indicators of the child dependency ratio have been declining for years (22.6% in 2010 and 20.4% in 2025), although no sharp changes have been observed over the 15-year period. This trend is mainly associated with the decline in the population

⁴⁰ Махмудов, А.Г. Демографическое развитие Азербайджана в условиях глобализации / А.Махмудов. – Баку: Elm, – 2016. – 280 с.

growth rate, the number of children born, the share of children in the population structure, and demographic dependency ratios. An opposite trend is observed in the old-age dependency ratio.⁴¹ The old-age dependency ratio has been steadily increasing over the years. While the dependency ratio was 5.9% in 2010, it reached 9.9% in 2025. Thus, the demographic dependency indicators were 28.5% for the non-working-age population and 68.5% for the working-age population in 2010, compared with 29.5% and 69.1%, respectively, in 2024. The indicators remain close to each other, but the ratios are changing. The increasing proportion of the older population indicates that increased life expectancy, access to healthcare services, and improved living standards may place an additional burden on the working-age population. The situation expected to arise in the future indicates that it may lead to increased pension expenditures, greater pressure on the healthcare system, changes in social policy, and problems in the labor market.⁴²

In all the post-Soviet countries studied, the demographic dependency ratio was quite high during the 1960s and 1970s. Despite the similar historical heritage and the same demographic trends of these countries, each of the above-mentioned countries demonstrates a demographic model based on demographic dependency ratios. Azerbaijan has a younger population structure, which requires the creation of additional jobs to prevent the outflow of young people from the country. The increase in the average life expectancy of older persons observed in recent demographic processes in Azerbaijan, the slight increase in the number of older persons in demographic dependency indicators, and the slight decline in the reproduction rate require additional measures to minimize demographic risks and processes.

In the third subchapter of the third chapter, entitled “Sustainable demographic development and future opportunities in Azerbaijan's

⁴¹ Стрекалова, Н.Д. Демографическая политика в контексте устойчивого регионального развития / Н.Д.Стрекалова, М.А.Татарникова, Н.Н.Фролова // Креативная экономика. – 2022. т.16, №1, – с.281-294.

⁴² Рыбаковский, О.Л. Демографическая политика: определение, структура, цели / О.Л.Рыбаковский, О.А.Таюнова. // Журнал Демография и миграция, 2019, – с.100-111.

liberated territories” it is particularly emphasized that the development of society in the liberated territories depends on the economic, social, and environmental capacities surrounding it. The demographic recovery model in the economic regions of Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur is one of the fundamental directions of the “Great Return” program.⁴³ Based on the cohort component method, it is possible to forecast stable population growth through an analysis of the age structure of the territory and, in parallel, to plan education, healthcare, social services, and infrastructure. The cohort component method is used in situations where a post-conflict or post-war territory is being analyzed and rapid and reliable forecasting is required at the local or regional level.⁴⁴ The advantages of the cohort component method are that it is simple, visual, easy to adapt to any territory, requires minimal data, and provides stable forecasts for 5–10 years. Taking into account the age groups of the population of the economic regions of Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur, it is necessary to calculate the demographic dependency ratio for the existing population of each economic region.

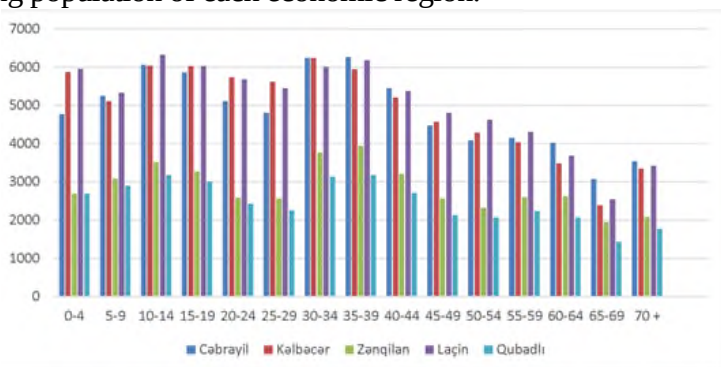


Figure 9. *Demographic Dependency Ratio Indicators of the Liberated Eastern Zangazur Economic Region*

Source: *State Statistical Committee*

⁴³ Tağıyeva, F.B. [və b.] Demografik göstəricilərin regional xüsusiyyətləri / F.B.Tağıyeva, X.Xələfli, C.Rəhimov // – Bakı: Elmi İş Beynəlxalq Elmi Jurnal. Təbiət Elmləri, – 2024. Cild 18, Sayı: 11, – s.118-122.

⁴⁴ Харченко, К.В. Демографический потенциал как ресурс стратегического развития регионов и муниципальных образований // Среднерусский вестник общественных наук (Российская академия народного хозяйства и государственной службы при Президенте РФ). – 2021. №2, – с.56-77.

As shown in Figure 9, child dependency (32.7%) and old-age dependency (13.1%) are observed in the demographic structure of the population. The indicators for the working-age population are lower. A similar trend is observed in the demographic dependency ratio indicators of the liberated Karabakh economic region.

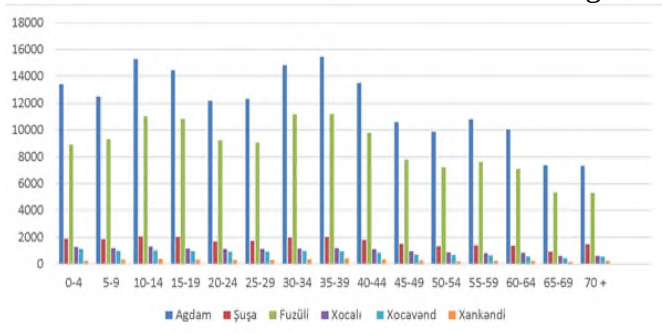


Figure 10. *Demographic Dependency Ratio Indicators of the Liberated Karabakh Economic Region*

Source: *State Statistical Committee*

The implementation of the first phase of the “Great Return” program is expected to be completed by the end of 2026. Currently, the indicators of demographic burden on the working-age population in terms of demographic dependency are high. In this regard, it is necessary to implement a sustainable demographic strategy to create opportunities for a “demographic dividend” in these territories in the future.⁴⁵

The main characteristics of the sustainable development model in the liberated territories should be implemented in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. During their implementation, favorable conditions should be created for the permanent residence of the population in these territories, schools, healthcare, jobs, and infrastructure should be provided, the return process should be accelerated, and migration flows should be reduced. To ensure sustainable population growth, it is important not only to increase the

⁴⁵ Mustafazadə, Ş.A. Azərbaycanın davamlı inkişaf kontekstində demoqrafik asılılıq göstəricilərinin müqayisəli təhlili // – Bakı: Geopolitika jurnalı, – 2025. №3(87), – s.62-67.

birth rate but also to ensure a high quality of life. Maintaining a balanced age structure of the population, creating educational and employment opportunities for young people, and providing social protection and healthcare services for older persons; managing the demographic burden, making effective use of the demographic window of opportunity, and ensuring equal and inclusive population development – all these conditions are extremely important for the recovery and development of the liberated territories and for creating sustainable living conditions for future generations.

The results, proposals, and recommendations obtained at the end of the research are reflected in the “**Conclusion**” section of the dissertation as follows:

1. The sustainable development model is one of the approaches considered a global priority of modern civilization. This model aims to ensure the long-term development of societies by balancing political, economic, social, and environmental factors. Demographic indicators play a key role in the planning and management of sustainable development. Population growth rates and dynamics, reflecting quantitative and qualitative characteristics, directly affect political, socio-economic, and environmental processes. The interrelationship and balanced interaction between the principles of sustainable development and demographic factors play an important role in determining strategic priorities and long-term strategies for future generations. The analyses conducted showed that the population growth dynamics in Azerbaijan have a positive trend, and the population increases year by year. Azerbaijan is at the fourth stage of the demographic transition, which is characterized by a slight slowdown in natural growth and the birth rate, a low mortality rate, and an increase in life expectancy compared with previous decades. Currently, demographic indicators demonstrate Azerbaijan’s sustainable demographic potential and indicate that the country will continue to advance along the path of sustainable development in the future.

2. It has been determined that the Azerbaijani family has been formed on the basis of historically established fundamental family institutions grounded in the spiritual and moral values of the people. The analysis of the decline in total fertility and reproduction rates has

established that, at the current stage, Azerbaijan is transitioning from a natalist (large-family) model to a nuclear (parents + children) family model, thereby combining the important mental and characteristic features of family relations with the challenges of modern society. Strengthening the legal and social framework for the protection of families, women, and children, providing social assistance and guardianship to young families, and supporting large families, martyrs, and veterans contribute to the development of a comprehensive family policy for long-term demographic planning.

3. The research conducted has shown that, although Azerbaijan is an oil and gas country, energy efficiency has become one of the main priorities of state policy aimed at sustainable development and reducing the ecological footprint. Based on the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, as well as being the host country of COP29, Azerbaijan is implementing policies on green energy and the efficient use of resources to increase the competitiveness of the economy. The main directions in this area include the modernization of fuel and energy stations and renewable energy sources, as well as the legal regulation of these processes. In Azerbaijan, ecological footprint values exceed its biocapacity, which indicates the emergence of an ecological deficit and the need to create a more sustainable development model. Having a small share of global emissions (approximately 0.17-0.15%), Azerbaijan is taking measures to reduce its ecological footprint. In accordance with its international commitments, Azerbaijan intends to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 35% by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

4. It has been determined that the comparative analysis of the Human Development Index adjusted for planetary pressures demonstrates the assessment of sustainable development, resource efficiency, and ecological deficit indicators and facilitates the review of countries' economic policies. Taking into account greenhouse gas emissions and pressure on the planet, this index is becoming an important tool for global climate policy. Compared with the countries of the post-Soviet space, Azerbaijan has improved its indicators across all major components of this index.

5. It has been determined that Azerbaijan's demographic policy, developed in the context of sustainable development, is aimed at achieving a balance between natural population growth, quality of life, and economic potential. Azerbaijan is experiencing a shift in its demographic paradigm, and the transition from quantitative growth to qualitative growth is aimed at stimulating the birth rate, increasing life expectancy, and stabilizing the population of the regions against the background of a decline in the overall growth rate. With positive population growth, Azerbaijan directs its demographic policy toward quality of life and health, regional development, employment, the economy, and taking new realities into account. Demographic policy is becoming an integral part of Azerbaijan's national strategies and sustainable development programs aimed at achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

6. It has been determined that the analysis of demographic dependency indicators shows that Azerbaijan demonstrates positive dynamics, characterized by the predominance of a young population structure, a decline in child dependency, and an increase in the proportion of older persons. As a result of increasing life expectancy, a trend toward population ageing is observed, which will lead to additional expenditures for the pension system, healthcare, benefit payments, and the labor market. To optimize and address these challenges, it is necessary to create additional jobs for the younger generation and ensure the social adaptation of the ageing population. The economic potential of the working-age population is of great importance for the sustainability of social protection systems and the future of Azerbaijan. The presence of a "demographic window" in Azerbaijan's age structure creates additional opportunities for managing demographic policy processes.

7. The resettlement of the population in the liberated territories of Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur is being carried out within the framework of the National Priorities for 2030. Ensuring the security of the territory and clearing it of mines, developing infrastructure, large-scale reconstruction, and creating jobs will facilitate the planned settlement in these territories. For this purpose, a demographic forecast by age groups for the economic regions of Karabakh and Eastern

Zangazur has been presented using the cohort method. It has been determined that the younger generation predominates in all regions, which constitutes the “demographic dividend” of the territory, while at the same time, the number of the older generation is also increasing. As the stages of the Great Return program are implemented, these contradictions will be resolved and demographic balance will be restored. The use of a sustainable demographic model will contribute to long-term positive dynamics in this direction.

The following articles and theses have been published regarding the general content of the dissertation:

1. Azərbaycanda inküziv inkişafın demoqrafik aspektləri // – Bakı: Azərbaycan Milli Komitəsinin əsərləri, İnsan və biosfer (MaB, UNESCO) jurnalı, – 2021. cild 16, – s.341-350.
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