

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF POPULATION MIGRATION IN THE CITIES OF TASHKENT REGION

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Abstract. *This article examines the socio-economic determinants and consequences of population migration in the cities of the Tashkent Region during the period of independence (1991–2021). Based on official statistical datasets provided by the author—including annual population dynamics, internal and international migration flows, employment indicators, and urbanization patterns—the study applies descriptive, comparative, and spatial analysis methods. The findings show that migration has been shaped by a combination of push and pull factors, including industrial development in major urban centers (such as Chirchiq, Olmaliq, Angren, Bekobod), regional labor market asymmetries, demographic pressure in densely populated districts, and wage differentials between Uzbekistan and foreign labor-receiving countries. Internal migration contributed to rapid urban growth and increasing pressure on social infrastructure, while international labor migration played a significant stabilizing role for household incomes through remittances. At the same time, the outflow of working-age men created gender-age imbalances and amplified social vulnerability in certain municipalities. [1.] The study concludes that managing migration in the Tashkent Region requires targeted urban planning strategies, investment in public services, and the development of localized employment programs to reduce excessive mobility driven by structural inequalities.*

Keywords: *Migration; Internal Migration; International Labor Migration; Socio-Economic Development; Urbanization; Tashkent Region; Demographic Transformation; Labor Market; Uzbekistan.*

Introduction. Migration has become one of the central demographic processes influencing the socio-economic development of Uzbekistan since independence. Tashkent Region, being one of the most industrially and economically active regions of the country, has experienced significant mobility flows—both internal migration from other regions and international labor migration. The cities of Tashkent Region have acted as major destinations for internal migrants seeking employment, education, and better living standards. At the same time, thousands of residents have migrated abroad for labor, particularly to Russia, Kazakhstan, South Korea, and Turkey. [2.] The complexity of these processes requires a detailed analysis of the socio-economic causes

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that generate population movement and the consequences it produces for regional development, demographic structure, and urbanization patterns.

Materials and Methods

The study is based on statistical and analytical data provided earlier by the user, including: Population dynamics of Tashkent Region (1991–2021)m; Age–sex structure and urbanization indicators; Internal migration flows to the cities of Tashkent Region (especially 2022 detailed dataset); International labor migration data (1995–2022), [3.] including countries of destination and number of migrant workers; Regional socio-economic indicators: industry, agriculture, investment, employment, and living standards

Methods used: Comparative demographic analysis; Time-series analysis (1991–2021); Structural analysis of migration flows; Socio-economic correlation assessment (migration → labor market, income, urban growth); Descriptive statistical interpretation

The integrated approach allows identifying the main causal relationships between migration patterns and socio-economic transformations.

Results and Discussion

Socio-Economic Causes of Migration in Tashkent Region Cities

Regional economic disparities. After independence, the economic development of Uzbek regions became uneven. The cities of Tashkent Region formed one of the strongest industrial belts, concentrating manufacturing, logistics, service industries, and transport infrastructure. This created strong pull factors, attracting internal migrants, particularly from the Ferghana Valley, Kashkadarya, Surkhandarya, and Karakalpakstan.

Labor market imbalance. Rapid population growth in Uzbekistan created a surplus labor force, while industrial enterprises in Tashkent Region demanded skilled and unskilled workers. This mismatch generated large-scale internal migration.

Simultaneously, lack of high-paying jobs in the 2000s–2010s encouraged residents of Tashkent Region to participate in international labor migration, especially to Russia and Kazakhstan.

Urbanization and infrastructural advantages. Cities such as Chirchiq, Angren, Olmaliq, and Nurafshon offer better access to education, healthcare, transport, and modern services. The urban lifestyle itself is a strong attractive factor for young adults.

Household economic strategies. Data on labor migrants (1995–2022) shows consistent growth caused by household needs: housing construction; children's education; debt repayment; improving living standards

This rational economic behavior intensified the scale of migration abroad.

Consequences of Internal Migration for Tashkent Region Cities

Urban population growth and spatial expansion. Internal migration significantly increased the population of Tashkent Region cities, accelerating urbanization and expanding suburban zones. For example, in 2022 alone, tens of thousands of migrants relocated from Andijan, Namangan, Fergana, Jizzakh, and other regions to Tashkent and its satellite cities.

This resulted in: increased housing demand; rising real estate prices; development of new residential districts

Migrants are predominantly young people aged 18–35, which rejuvenates the regional demographic profile. The working-age population share grows, increasing the labor force potential of the region. [4.]

Internal migrants fill positions in: construction; manufacturing; services; transport and logistics.

This stimulates economic productivity, but also creates challenges: pressure on urban infrastructure; informal employment growth; competition in low-skilled labor markets.

Consequences of International Labor Migration:

1. Increased household income

International migration generates significant remittances. Data from 2005–2021 shows continuous inflow of earnings from Russia, Kazakhstan, South Korea, and Turkey, which improves household welfare and stimulates consumer demand in Tashkent Region.

2. Skills transfer and human capital effects

Migrants return with new skills, technologies, and work discipline, which positively influences local labor quality.

3. Social consequences

However, migration abroad also has negative outcomes: family separation; psychological stress; children growing up without a parent; social instability in some communities

4. Demographic impact

Long-term migration can reduce birth rates and change the gender-age balance, especially in male-dominated migration flows.

Conclusion. Migration—both internal and international—has become a defining demographic and socio-economic factor for the cities of Tashkent Region during 1991–2021. Its causes are rooted in economic disparities, labor market needs, urban advantages, and household survival strategies. The consequences are multifaceted: migration stimulates urban growth, strengthens the labor force, and increases incomes, but simultaneously creates infrastructural pressure, social challenges, and demographic shifts.

A comprehensive migration management strategy is essential for ensuring balanced urban development, improving living standards, and optimizing demographic trends in Tashkent Region.

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