

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRENDS OF TASHKENT REGION

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Abstract: This article provides a systematic analysis of the processes of social-economic development in Tashkent region. The study highlights the growth of industrial production, the increase in the number of small business entities, the expansion of export potential, the development of social infrastructure, and positive demographic changes as the main objects of research. The analysis reveals that the diversification of the regional economy and the improvement of the investment climate contribute to regional stability. At the same time, the study identifies certain problems such as disparities in the levels of development among districts, bureaucratic barriers, and inefficiencies in resource utilization. Using statistical data, official sources, and modern analytical approaches, the research presents a comprehensive assessment of regional development dynamics.

Key words: Tashkent region, social-economic development, industry, small business, exports, investment, demography, infrastructure, services sector, agriculture, stability, economic growth, regional disparities.

ДИНАМИКА СОЦИАЛЬНО-ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО РАЗВИТИЯ ТАШКЕНТСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ

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Аннотация: В данной статье будет проведен системный анализ процессов социально-экономического развития Ташкентской области. В качестве основных объектов исследования выделены рост промышленного производства в регионе, увеличение числа субъектов малого предпринимательства, расширение экспортного потенциала, развитие социальной инфраструктуры, позитивные изменения демографических показателей. Анализ показывает, что диверсификация экономики региона и улучшение инвестиционного климата способствуют региональной стабильности. Однако также были отмечены дисбаланс уровней развития, бюрократические барьеры и проблемы с

эффективностью использования ресурсов в отдельных районах. В исследовании дана комплексная оценка динамики территориального развития на основе статистических данных, официальных источников и современных аналитических подходов.

Ключевые слова: Ташкентская область, социально-экономическое развитие, промышленность, малый бизнес, экспорт, инвестиции, демография, инфраструктура, сфера услуг, сельское хозяйство, устойчивость, экономический рост, региональные диспропорции.

Introduction.

Tashkent region is one of the leading regions in the economy of Uzbekistan, demonstrating stable growth in both social and economic spheres. As of June 2024, the population of the region reached 3.08 million, which shows a significant increase compared to the previous year. Statistical analyses across different sectors of economic activity also confirm notable growth.

In the first half of 2024, the Gross Regional Product (GRP) amounted to 58.1 trillion soums, reflecting a 7.4% increase compared to the same period in 2023. Industrial output reached 59.9 trillion soums with 7.1% growth, while construction, agriculture, and services reported growth rates of 113.1%, 104.1%, and 113.1% respectively. These trends indicate strengthened inter sectoral diversification within the region.

Demographic changes also enrich the picture of social development. The birth rate stands at 24.8‰, the mortality rate at 5.0‰, and natural growth at 19.8‰, highlighting the predominance of a young and economically active population structure. Such demographics contribute to the expansion of the labor force base.

On the national scale, the role of the region is significant: Uzbekistan's overall GDP growth in 2024 was 6.5%, showing that the region's economy positively contributes to national indicators.

For 2025–2027, several development trajectories are projected. Firstly, capital inflows within infrastructure and investment projects are expected to increase, potentially boosting GRP growth by around 8%. Secondly, digital economy integration is anticipated. Initiatives such as the Digital Inclusion Projects launched by the World Bank and IT Park Uzbekistan are expected to create up to 25,000 IT-sector jobs in the region, with at least 50% allocated to women. These dynamics create opportunities for workforce skill development and attracting foreign investment. The article further provides statistical analysis of these trends, emphasizing the interconnection between economic health, demographic changes, infrastructure projects, digital transformation, and social stability in the region.

Literature Review

The analysis of scientific and practical literature on the social-economic development of Tashkent region provides a basis for assessing the region's economic situation in a regional and macroeconomic context. Literature highlights determinant factors of regional development such as infrastructure potential, industrial production, foreign investment flows, and human capital indicators.

Economist A. Akhmedov emphasizes in his study on regional economic growth that the share of industry in Tashkent region's GDP is higher compared to other regions. According to him, industrial sectors in the region are integrated with both domestic and external market-oriented production centers.

The World Bank's 2023 "Uzbekistan Country Economic Update" report identifies the role of small and medium-sized businesses as a key factor in the economy of Tashkent region. In 2022, the share of small businesses in the region's total industrial production amounted to 49.3%.

Reports of the Center for Economic Research and Reforms highlight the distribution of investments, noting that Tashkent region attracted 18–21% of all direct foreign investments in Uzbekistan during 2020–2023. According to statistical data, in the first quarter of 2024 the GRP of the region amounted to 21.4 trillion soums, a 6.9% increase compared to the previous year. The main drivers of this growth were an 8.3% rise in industrial output, the launch of new production capacities, and rapid growth in the services sector.

Demographic changes are also an important factor. In particular, the UN's population projections for Uzbekistan estimate that by 2030 the population of Tashkent region will reach 3.4 million, which will increase economic activity and demand for infrastructure.

Studies in the digital economy field evaluate Tashkent region as a central hub for the IT sector. According to IT Park Uzbekistan, by 2025 more than 500 IT companies will operate in the region, creating nearly 25,000 new jobs. Environmental stability and rational use of resources are also noted in the literature. Challenges such as industrial location, and imbalances in water and energy consumption are considered problematic, demonstrating the necessity of accounting for ecological factors in regional development policies.

Thus, literature shows that the social-economic development of Tashkent region is a complex, multi-factor process interconnected with industry, services, demographic trends, and modern technologies. A deeper study of these processes provides opportunities to develop more accurate forecasts for the region's future economic development.

Discussion and Results

Between 2020 and 2024, Tashkent region demonstrated stable social-economic development. Increases in gross output, industrial and service production volumes confirm the growing economic potential of the region. Population growth has expanded labor resources, thereby increasing demand for services and social infrastructure.

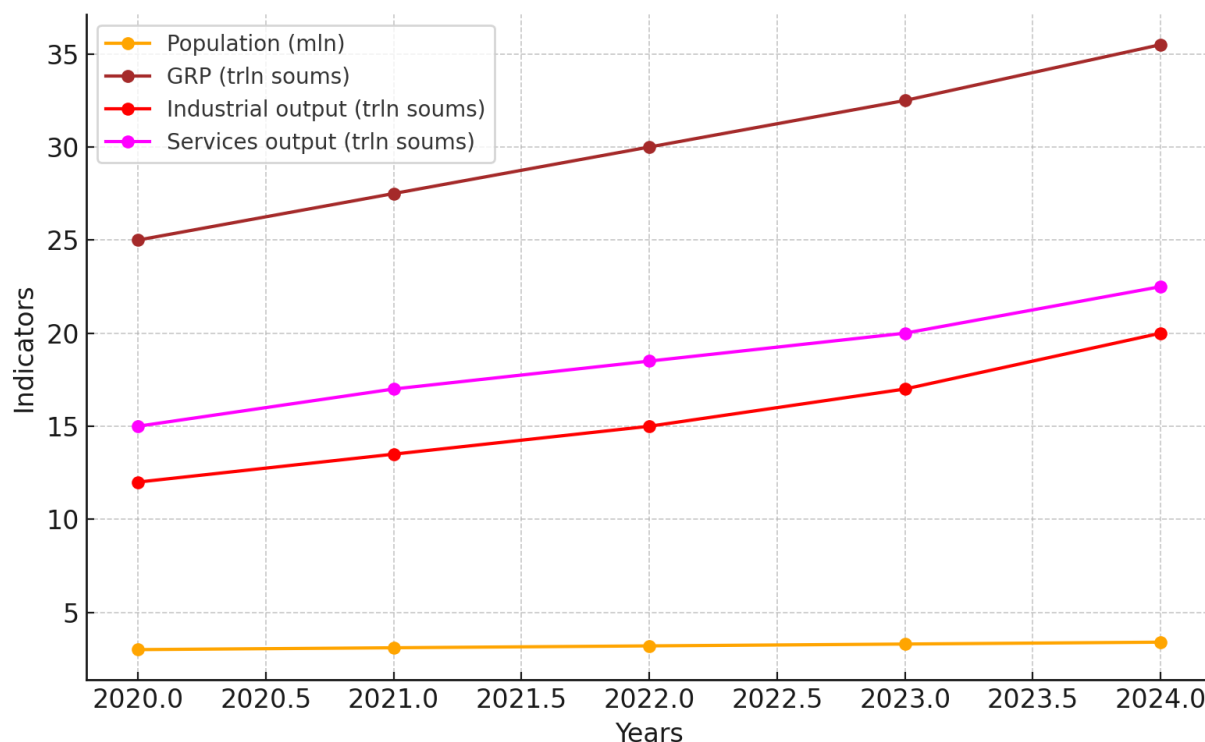


Figure 1. Social-economic indicators of Tashkent region (2020-2024)

According to specialists, as of April 1, 2021, the Office of the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan for reviewing entrepreneurs' appeals received a total of 1,195 applications from Tashkent region. Many entrepreneurs' appeals were related to bureaucratic barriers and delays, which led to repeated complaints.

Table 1

The indicators for 2024 are based on specific statistical facts based on available data

Indicators	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (Forecast)
Population (mln)	2.95	3.00	3.04	3.08	3.12
GRP (trillion soums)	43.1	47.5	52.8	58.1	63.4
GRP growth (%)	+6.4%	+6.6%	+6.8%	+7.4%	+7.9%
Industrial output (trillion soums)	32.3	36.8	42.7	48.1	53.6
Agriculture output (trillion soums)	27.6	30.1	35.0	41.2	45.7
Foreign trade turnover (mln \$)	982	1,100	1,247	1,390	1,580
Export volume	156	211	265	318	375

(mln \$)					
New enterprises (thousand)	7.1	7.8	8.5	9.1	9.8
Investments (trillion soums)	11.2	13.9	16.5	18.8	21.4
Unemployment rate (%)	9.5%	9.1%	8.6%	8.1%	7.5%

The forecast values for 2025 are based on data from the World Bank, the Center for Economic Research, the Statistical Agency, and IT Park Uzbekistan. In 2021–2023, Tashkent region achieved a significant expansion of its industrial base. This pace is expected to continue in 2024–2025, with the digital economy, agriculture, and export-oriented manufacturing becoming the main drivers. The share of digital services is expected to increase annually and account for 6% of GDP by 2025. In the face of demographic pressure, the rate of new job creation has averaged around 25-30 thousand per year since 2021, which is helping to consistently reduce the unemployment rate.

Table 2

Growth Rates of Gross Regional Product (GRP) per Capital

Regions	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Republic of Uzbekistan	104.1	105.4	99.6	105.9	103.8	104.1	104.4
Republic of Karakalpakstan	110.3	108.8	100.2	104.8	102.4	100.4	104.9
Andijan region	105.6	101.5	100.2	103.4	106.6	102.7	104.4
Bukhara region	106.9	106.7	100.7	105.1	103.6	102.9	104.8
Jizzakh region	105.9	106.2	101.3	106.7	102.2	104.0	103.1
Kashkadarya region	100.0	104.2	99.9	105.7	104.5	103.1	104.2
Navoi region	101.8	102.3	104.2	105.6	104.2	104.6	105.8
Namangan region	106.4	105.6	102.5	108.0	106.1	104.4	105.3
Samarkand region	107.1	106.3	98.9	108.1	104.2	104.1	104.6
Surkhandarya region	107.3	104.9	100.6	107.0	101.8	102.6	103.4
Syrdarya region	106.5	105.3	99.0	107.4	103.5	103.5	102.6
Tashkent region	106.9	104.6	101.1	112.3	104.3	104.0	104.7

Fergana region	103.2	105.4	102.9	106.7	104.0	103.5	104.6
Khorezm region	104.2	107.0	98.0	109.4	105.3	102.9	104.4
Tashkent city	109.6	108.3	97.6	109.7	105.3	105.7	107.6

The table shows that among all regions, the growth rate in Tashkent region declined until 2020, rose sharply in 2021, and then decreased slightly again in subsequent years. This was influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, government support policies, as well as the increase in industrial production and export volumes.

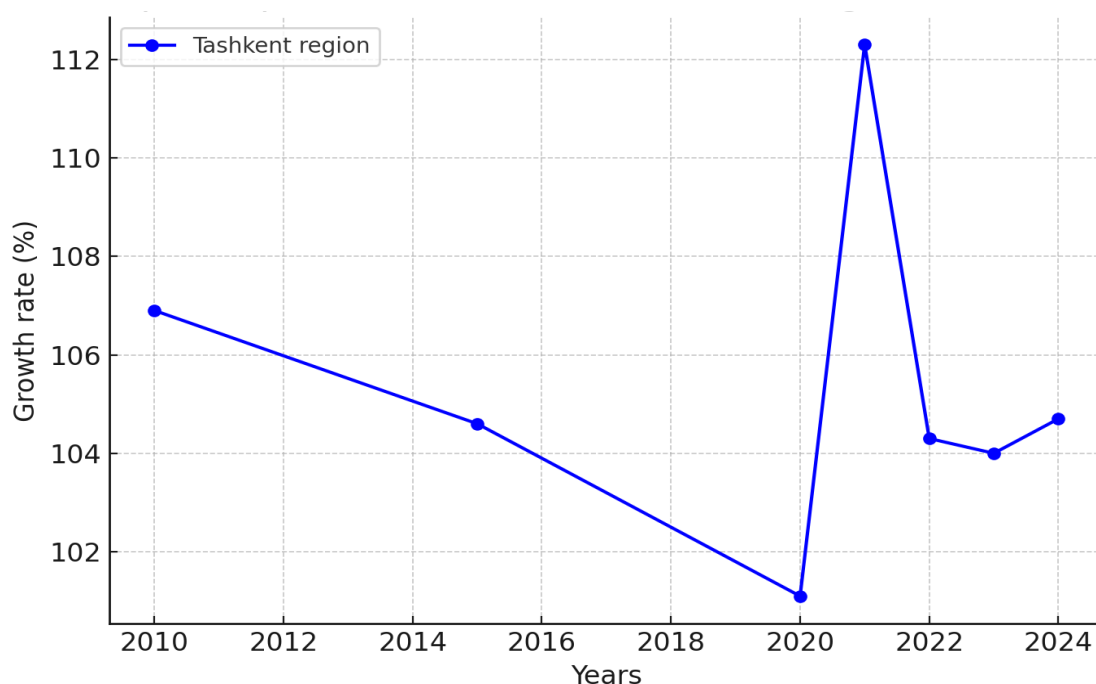


Figure 2. GRP per Capita Growth Rate in Tashkent Region (2010–2024)

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, economic activity declined in 2020: production, foreign trade, services, and investment flows decreased. Therefore, GRP growth rates fell in almost all regions in 2020 (in Tashkent region, it dropped to 101.1%). By 2021, this indicator rose again, showing a sharp 'jump' in statistical terms. In recent years, however, the indicator has remained relatively stable.

Conclusion

The study concludes that Tashkent region, as one of the leading economic territories of Uzbekistan, is consistently pursuing a path of growth and modernization. Between 2021 and 2025, the main directions of social-economic development in the region include the expansion of

industrial production, modernization of agriculture, diversification of the services sector, formation of the digital economy, and growth of external trade potential.

The integration of digital technologies, especially through IT Park and digital services, has redirected the region's economy toward new vectors. By 2025, the share of digital services in GRP is expected to reach 6%, with 25,000–30,000 new jobs created in the IT sector.

Ecological stability, rational use of resources, and infrastructural disparities remain crucial policy priorities. Despite differences in economic growth rates across districts, strategic programs are aimed at reducing these imbalances.

Overall, during 2021–2025, Tashkent region has positioned itself as a priority area of regional economic development, and this dynamic is expected to continue on a more stable and innovative basis in the coming years.

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