

ENHANCING ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY IN THE REGIONS

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Summary. *The article develops recommendations for improving the regional structure of industry, taking into account the characteristics, natural and socio-economic opportunities and the environmental situation of the country's regions. The current state of industrial integration in the regions and related problems, the formation of the republic's industry, the economic and geographical assessment of the factors influencing it, as well as scientific and practical proposals and recommendations for improving the regional and sectoral structure of the industry were also determined.*

Key words: *region, industry, sectoral structure of industry, regional structure of industry, regional competitiveness, economic potential.*

Introduction:

Relevance of the research topic. Today, the rapid growth of the world's population, the provision of their employment and consumer goods, a special role is played by the territorial organization of the development of industrial production, primarily taking into account local labor resources, minerals and the environment. It addresses the objectives of the ninth objective of the United Nations Sustainable Development Program for the period until 2030 «Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all»[1]. These tasks require improving the structure of the industry and its regional organization.

When analyzing global industrial development, it is important to pay special attention to the activities of production companies: “In any economy, production companies are key suppliers of new products and increasing the range of goods. The successive waves of technological revolutions, each of which was born in the industrial sector, radically changed the daily lives of people. These waves have greatly expanded and continue to expand the range of products available to consumers” [2].

For the development of industrial production in the world, the organization of industry at the regional level, researches aimed at the location of enterprises, the efficient use of labor resources, the rapid development of the production of products with high added value based on deep processing of local raw materials, on the efficient use of existing productive forces taking into account such local factors as the natural resource and mineral resources base of the place, the demographic potential and labor resources and ecology are of great importance.

In the development of industry in the country, a number of measures are being taken to improve the territorial structure of industry, taking into account the natural and socio-economic capabilities, geographical features and the ecological situation of the regions. In this regard, researches aimed at improving the regional structure of industrial production taking into account the existing natural resource in the regions and the potential of labor resources are of great importance.

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The degree to which the problem has been studied. The following scientists conducted a number of researches and widely studied the theoretical aspects of industrial development, improving the regional and sectoral structure, as well as the formation and development of industrial centers, industrial production, its regional organization in the countries of the world, in particular in Uzbekistan or some of its areas: F. Perru [3], I. Thünen [4], W. Crystaller [5], A. Weber [6], N.N. Kolosovsky [7], Yu.G. Saushkin, V.V. Kistanov, E. B. Alaev [8], I. M. Maergoiz [9], M. D. Sharigin [10], A.T. Khrushev [11], A.G. Granberg [12], N.N. Nekrasov [13], R.A. Popov [14], Ziyadullaev S.K. [15] Ruzmetov B. [16], Kalinina V.V. [17], Sushiy S.Ya. [18], Kumaneeva M.K. [19], Ruziev A., Abirkulov A. [20], Kayumov A.A. [21], M.A. Abdusalyamov [22], O. Abdullaev [23] and others.

The choice of the topic of this research was based on the lack of research in the scientific work of the above scientists on the rapid development of industry in the country, the reduction of regional differences in the development of industry, and the improvement of its sectoral and regional structure.

The aim of the research is to develop proposals and recommendations for improving the regional structure of industry, taking into account the characteristics, natural and socio-economic opportunities and environmental conditions of the country's regions.

Research Objectives:

analysis of changes in the territorial and sectoral structure of industry in the country in the context of diversification of the national economy and identifying its problems;

identification of the current state of industrial integration in the regions and related problems;

the formation of the industry of the republic, economic and geographical assessment of the factors influencing it;

Development of scientific and practical proposals and recommendations for improving the regional and sectoral structure of the industry of the republic.

The object of research is the territorial structure of industry and its industries in Uzbekistan.

The subject of the research is the improvement of the regional structure, taking into account local factors affecting the development of industry in the country.

Research Methods. We used regional analysis, historical, statistical and mathematical, balance sheet, geographical comparative, system content and others.

The scientific novelty of the study:

substantiated further expansion of the natural gas production and processing industry in the Lower Amudarya economic region, which has potential hydrocarbon reserves, based on the introduction of "environmentally friendly" high technologies;

The establishment of free economic zones "Bostanlyk-Farm", "Parkent-Farm" in the Tashkent economic region, which, along with developed industry and high potential, has a variety of species in the flora and vegetation, as well as the natural prevalence of medicinal plants, is justified;

the development of water-intensive cotton ginning, spinning, sewing and knitting industry, oil and gas industry in the difficult soil, climatic and reclamation conditions of the Mirzachul economic region is justified;

substantiated the development of electronics, electrical engineering and the food industry, as well as work at home in the service sector in the economic region of Zarafshan, which has a high tourist potential, developed transport and transit and social infrastructure is justified;

the reduction of local labor inequalities and regional differences in industry due to the expansion of production and integrated processing of hydrocarbons and potassium salts, further development of the fuel and energy and chemical complex in the Southern Economic Region, which has large reserves of natural resources, especially minerals and fuel minerals is justified;

the development of fruit and canning, textile, automobile, instrument-making and microbiological industries in the densely populated, with sufficient skilled labor resources, urbanized Ferghana economic region is justified.

The practical results of the research are as follows:

a series of maps have been created in the republic with a description of the territorial structure of industries;

the level of regional integration of regional industrial production, mining and processing industries is estimated;

Suggestions on elimination of the regional differences in the development of industry in the country have been developed.

The main content of the research. The economic potential of the republic, the level of use of the technical, natural, material and labor resources of production are in many ways inextricably linked with industry.

Each industry has a certain economic integrity. Industry is an association of enterprises, which includes production, products, profit, raw materials, equipment and technologies, professional personnel and working conditions, as well as placement factors.

It is known that a created and specialized enterprise does not create an industrial network, since the network consists of a group of related enterprises. However, no group of related companies can create a network. To do this, it must be different in nature from existing industries and have large-scale production in terms of population needs. Thus, the groups and industries of specialized enterprises differ from each other. Accordingly, the industry grouping scheme is divided into a group of main industries, a group of specialized enterprises.

Sectors differ from each other in terms of production, technical and structural-technological specifics, fuels, energy, sources of raw materials, areas where labor is concentrated, consumption of finished products, their location. This greatly exacerbates the rational integration of networks. Firstly, a separate network is part of a certain regional complex with several enterprises. Secondly, not all sectors participate in the activities of the regional production complex of each region simultaneously with their enterprises. Thirdly, enterprises of one industry form specific associations with other industry enterprises of the industry in regional complexes with various specializations and structures. Industrial enterprises are characterized by participation in the structure of industries and regional production complexes within the regional division of labor and interaction. At the same time, the differences between industries are in the level of development, the scale and efficiency of production; degree of compliance with local, economic and environmental conditions; the nature of the use of labor, material and natural resources; impact on the surrounding productive forces; relations with other industries and other sectors of the economy; ability to form production complexes; depends on the level of participation in the inter-regional exchange of finished products, energy, fuel, raw materials [24].

Relations between sectors performing various functions in the region can be determined not only qualitatively, but also quantitatively. These ideas are primarily associated with the definition of regional specialization of industries. Coefficients of specialization and localization of industries according to A.T. Khrushchev [11] are defined as follows:

$$S_i^r = \frac{P_i^r}{P^r} \div \frac{P_i}{P} \quad \text{ёки} \quad L_i^r = \frac{P_i^r}{P^r} \div \frac{P^r}{P}$$

Here S_i^r – coefficient of specialization of the i-network ($i = 1, 2, 3 \dots, m$) in the r-region ($r = 1, 2, 3 \dots, n$); P_i^r is the volume of production of the i-sector in the r-region, P^r is the volume of total industrial production in the r-region, P_i is the volume of production in any sector of the country; P is the total industrial production of the country; L_i^r is the localization coefficient of the i-network in the r-region.

A theoretical study of industrial production serves as the basis for the development of practical proposals. The industry has created the latest inventions and discoveries, methods and technologies of scientific and technological development. They are quickly introduced into production. Therefore, the industry follows in the footsteps of other sectors of the economy. The economic potential of the republic, the level of utilization of technical, natural, material and labor resources of production are in many respects closely related to industry.

Industry plays a central role in ongoing reforms in the country. Indeed, the development of industry serves the solution of many economic and social problems, and the ultimate goal is to increase the standard of living of the population.

Industry in our country is developing steadily. If in 2000 the share of industrial production in the country's GDP was only 14.2%, then in 2017 it increased to 27.2% [25]. The volume of industrial production in 2000 amounted to 1888.9 billion, in 2018 228866.2 billion sums [26]. The growth rate of industrial production in 2018 compared to 2017 amounted to 114.4%. 1826.8 thousand people worked in industry, which made up 13.6% of the population employed in the economy (13520.3 thousand people) [27]. Most of the overall growth in industrial production came from industries specializing in the production of finished products with high added value.

The volume of industrial production in the Republic of Uzbekistan has been growing rapidly over the years. If the volume of industrial production in 2005 amounted to 11028.6 billion sums, then in 2018 this figure amounted to 228866.2 billion sums, and thus production volumes increased almost 20 times (Figure 1).

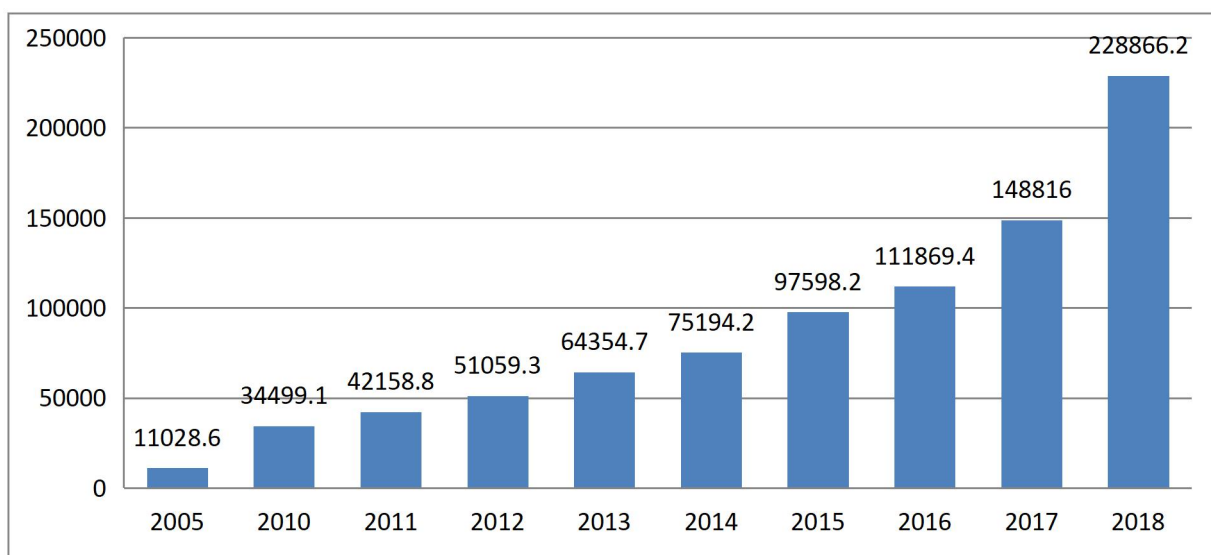


Figure 1 Volume of Industrial production, billion sums

The share of industries in the structure of industrial production is also changing. According to Vakhobov A., Muminov N., Jurahanov F., Karimov A.: “Despite the decrease in the growth rate of production, the food industry still plays a key role in the economy of the country» [28]. If in 2010 the fuel industry had the largest share (19.8 percent), then in the last period of the analyzed period, that is, in 2017, the food industry, the production of beverages and tobacco products had the largest share - 18.9 percent. However, given that the share of this industry in 2016 amounted to 23.9 percent, in 2017 we will see a decrease of 5.0 percent. The contribution of industries such as textiles, clothing, leather products (16.3%), machinery and equipment, repair and installation, automobiles, trailers, semi-trailers and other finished metal products (14.3%) also increased significantly. It should be noted that engineering and industry emerged from the depression. After all, the share of this industry in 2016 fell to 9.8 percent. For comparison, its share in 2014 amounted to 17.1 percent. Obviously, efforts are being made to restore the former position of this industry.

In the economic and geographical study of the industry, the study of its industry structure is of great scientific and practical importance. This is due to the fact that industries are the result of the division of social labor, which reflects the main forms of social organization of production, namely consolidation, specialization, cooperation and association. In addition, it is in the system of industries that there are more opportunities for introducing new technologies of industrial production and the practical application of modern achievements of science and technology.

Given the rich raw materials and labor resources in the country, the organization of industry, especially labor-intensive industries, requires attention to the economic resource potential of the regions. Today, the rational use of internal capacities and resources serves as a solid basis for the further development of the engineering industry [29].

The experience of developed countries shows that in order to increase industrial production, it is necessary to bring raw materials to the final stage, that is, to an environmentally friendly and finished product for consumption. This requires the whole process of organizing production, that is, a full cycle.

The regions of the republic have a different share in industrial production (Table 1).

Table-1

**The volume of industrial production in the Republic of Uzbekistan
(in billion sums)**

	Years				
	2005	2010	2015	2017	2018
Republic of Uzbekistan	11028,6	34499,1	97598,2	148816,0	228866,2
Republic of Karakalpakstan	198,8	562,2	2387,6	6773,3	10563,1
Regions					
Andijan	1177,5	4314,6	9744,6	13269,8	26950,7
Bukhara	517,0	1419,7	5143,9	6422,3	8520,7
Jizzah	192,6	430,9	1474,5	2548,8	3276,6
Kashkadarya	1436,6	4614,7	8721,9	10945,9	14196,6

Navoi	1714,8	3804,0	9286,9	13072,9	22554,2
Namangan	330,5	834,3	2861,8	4615,5	5743,7
Samarkand	383,6	1672,5	6095,5	9242,0	11871,3
Surkhandarya	219,1	644,8	1910,7	2356,4	3222,5
Syrdarya	296,6	806,6	2820,6	3806,5	4941,7
Tashkent	1795,4	4995,4	11401,0	21693,4	35019,6
Ferghana	1033,2	2843,8	7170,2	9728,5	12832,5
Khorezm	214,8	508,4	2616,0	4070,4	5930,9
Tashkent city	1247,4	6571,5	18986,1	30459,6	42600,9

Source: State Committee on Statistics of the Republic of Uzbekistan. stat.uz.

Consequently, the distribution of industry by region is uneven, and the industrial production of the regions is not the same. Some regions (Tashkent city and region) have a large share, while in some regions, on the contrary, very low industrial production (Jizzakh, Surkhandarya regions). It is clear that industrial production in the regions should be evenly and proportionately distributed, regional differences should be eliminated, and the potential of industrial production in the regions should be brought together and aligned. The main attention will be paid to the least industrialized regions, the creation of advanced industries in them, the location of enterprises that deeply process local raw materials and produce export-oriented products, which will become the basis for their industrial development.

According to the data of 2018, the leading cities in the country's industrial production are Tashkent (42600.9 billion sums), Tashkent region (35019.6 billion sums), Andijan region (26950.7 billion sums) and Navoi region (22554.2 billion sums). The smallest industrial production is observed in Surkhandarya (3222.5 billion sums), Jizzakh (3276.6 billion sums) and Syrdarya (4941.7 billion sums) regions. The remaining regions areas occupy average places (Table 2).

Table-2

Grouping of industrial production by regions of the republic (2018)

Types	Group	Industrial production of the regions, billion sums
I	High (20 billion sums and more)	Tashkent city (42600.9 billion sums), Tashkent (35019.6 billion sums), Andijan (26950.7 billion sums), Navoi (22554.2 billion sums) regions
II	Medium (from 10 billion to 20 billion sums)	Kashkadarya (14196.6 billion sums), Fergana (12832.5 billion sums), Samarkand (11871.3 billion sums), the Republic of Karakalpakstan (10563.1 billion sums)
III	Low (up to 10 billion sums)	Bukhara (8520.7 billion sums), Khorezm (5930.9 billion sums), Namangan (5743.7 billion sums), Syrdarya (4941.7 billion sums), Jizzakh (3276.6 billion sums), Surkhandarya (3222.5 billion sums) regions

Source: State Committee on Statistics of the Republic of Uzbekistan. stat.uz.

According to the analysis, the highest level of industrial production in 2018 was observed in Andijan region (155.8%). It should be noted that in 2016 the region's indicators were very low (74.8%). High growth rates were also noted in Khorezm (117.3%), Surkhandarya (115.6%), Tashkent (115.6%), Namangan (111.9%) and Syrdarya (110.4%) regions. However, in Jizzakh (102.1%), Bukhara (103.0%), Navoi (103.2%) regions and the Republic of Karakalpakstan (104.1%), growth rates were lower than in other regions [30]. The country produced an industrial output of an average of 6944.7 thousand sums per capita (2018).

In regions, in 2018, the Navoi region will take first place in the production of industrial products per capita from 23,343.2 thousand sums. Also, Tashkent city (17123.9 thousand sums) and the Tashkent region (12160.0 thousand sums) are included in the "strong trio" of the country. Their numbers are significantly higher than in other regions. In particular, the indicator of the Navoi region was 18.4 times higher than that of the Surkhandarya region. It should be noted that the gap is increasing from year to year. Indeed, the difference between these regions, that is, the "absolute maximum" and the "absolute minimum", was 12.6 times in 2016, and 15.6 times in 2017. Industrial production in Navoi region is 11.1 times higher than in Namangan region, and 2.6 times higher than in Andijan region.

Surkhandarya region is the region with the lowest level of industrial production per capita in the country. In 2017, the region produced industrial products for 880.3 thousand sums, and in 2018 this figure amounted to 1267.8 thousand sums. Therefore, the rapid development of industry in this region is not required. The volume of industrial

production in the region is 13.5 times less than in Tashkent, and 5.8 times less than in the Tashkent region. In turn, the lowest rates are observed in Namangan (2106.9 thousand sums), Jizzakh (2447.8 thousand sums) regions, Khorezm (3258.4 thousand sums) regions.

The industry and territorial structure of the industry of Uzbekistan are diverse. This is due to the peculiarities of their historical formation, the development of science and technology, demographic, natural and labor resources and other factors.

The main industries that determine the development of science and technology - electricity, engineering, electrical engineering, electronics, the chemical industry and others are developing at a rapid pace.

In accordance with the basic laws of a market economy, funds are accumulated in the most important areas where economic efficiency can be achieved quickly. This is especially true for mechanical engineering.

Based on the principles of a market economy, the availability of qualified manpower, a convenient infrastructure system will bring automotive, electrical, irrigation, aviation and textile industries to new heights in the regions of the country. Because the development of these sectors will have a positive impact on solving the problems of areas with high demographic potential and limited land and water resources.

The placement of industrial enterprises on a scientific basis is carried out in connection with the territorial organization of industries. Although this idea was originally created by the German scientist A. Weber [6], today it has not lost its relevance. In his 1909 work, *Industrial Placing, Industrial Standards*, he argued that when placing industrial enterprises, much attention should be paid to raw materials and fuel, labor and transport factors.

The above factors still have a strong influence on the development of the industry, especially its location. In this regard, there are the following disadvantages and problems in the territorial and sectoral structure of the industrial production of the republic:

relatively underdeveloped modern and advanced engineering industries, such as electrical engineering, electronics and radio engineering, which produce many labor-intensive and low-metal consumer goods in the industry of the republic [31];

machine-building and metal-working enterprises are located very unevenly, and therefore, the production relations between them are not very well established, but the prospects for enterprises in the automotive and electrical industries are very large, so it is necessary to increase the number of related enterprises and increase their production capacities;

industrial enterprises for the processing of agricultural products (silk factories, canneries, dairy plants and other enterprises) cannot process agricultural raw materials due to lack of production capacity and inefficient location, which makes it necessary to transport raw materials and finished products over long distances;

in some cases, the task of increasing gross industrial output remains unfulfilled. This situation is mainly due to the fact that capital construction is lagging behind, new production facilities are not starting up on time, and partly due to the supply of low-quality equipment;

inefficient use of existing manufacturing enterprises, weak specialization of obsolete enterprises in other areas;

indifference to the widespread dissemination of small business and private entrepreneurship.

Joint and private enterprises play an important role in the development of industry of the republic, in overcoming future socio-economic problems and in conducting radical qualitative changes in this area. Creation joint ventures, attraction of foreign investment in the economy, require to take into account the demographic situation, the level of use of natural resources and their production, meeting the needs of the population and overcoming socio-environmental problems, the effective use of modern science and technology, strengthening positions in the domestic and foreign markets, intensively developing national economy; development and support of small business and private entrepreneurship. A joint study by scientists from the National University of Uzbekistan and the Kazan Federal University states that "Investors who have already invested in the Republic of Uzbekistan are interested in increasing investment. Among the industries attracting foreign investment, one can single out the same ones that are attractive for domestic investors: automobile industry, mining of non-metallic minerals, manufacturing industry, fuel and energy complex, transport and communications"[32].

The establishment of indicators of the territorial location and development of industrial enterprises in the country for 2030, the reconstruction of the material and technical base of the national economy, the creation of an effective structure of economic sectors and modern forms of management are among such important measures.

Conclusion. Based on the study, the following conclusions were made:

1. The republic's industry is undergoing profound structural changes. Especially, in recent years, the mining, machine-building, light and textile industries have been re-equipped with the most advanced, modern technologies. The most advanced industries have been formed, which are completely new for Uzbekistan - automotive, electronic, biotechnological, pulp and paper.

2. In the technological and regional organization of industry, application based on a real situation, energy production cycles and regional production complexes by N. N. Kolosovsky [7], industry standard by A. Weber [6], poles and growth centers of F. Perroux [3], Cluster theory M. Porter [33] leads to economic efficiency.

3. It is advisable to develop, first of all, 3 basic industries in 6 economic regions of the republic. They should consist of: energy, building materials and textile industry. So far, such a production complex can be seen in the Tashkent economic region. It is also formed partially in the Zarafshan and Ferghana economic regions. However, electricity and building materials are less developed in Ferghana and textiles in Zarafshan. The southern economic region is rich in large mineral resources, with the construction and textile industries in the region, textiles in Mirzachul and all three main sectors in the Lower Amudarya economic region.

4. To increase the importance of industry in the economic regions of Tashkent, Ferghana and Zarafshan, it is necessary to effectively use the existing scientific and production potential. These economic regions are explained by the widespread use of modern technologies in industrial production, the employment of labor resources, especially women, and the accelerated elimination of obsolete and environmentally harmful production enterprises.

5. The formation and development of industrial complexes is carried out mainly on the basis of huge fuel and energy reserves in Kashkadarya (Shurtan-Mubarak), Bukhara (Gazli), Navoi regions and especially in regional production complexes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan (Ustyurt).

6. The role and importance of small business and private entrepreneurship in creating new jobs and increasing employment is growing every year. But in the industry, small business and private entrepreneurship are not able to take a leading position. Therefore, it is proposed to strengthen their production activities, expand cooperation with large industrial enterprises, and provide benefits for the sale of their products.

7. The leading positions in the country's industrial production are held Tashkent city (18.6%), Tashkent region (15.3%), Andijan (11.8%), Navoi (9.9%) regions. However, the share of Khorezm (2.6%), Namangan (2.5%), Syrdarya (2.2%), Jizzakh (1.4%) and Surkhandarya (1.4%) regions is sharply lower. It can be seen that there are large regional differences in the industrial production of the republic. Therefore, this explains the development of industry in underdeveloped regions and the minimization of regional differences.

8. The share of Tashkent (33.9%), Ferghana (19.9%), Zarafshan (18.8%) economic regions in the industrial production of the republic is large. However, the share of the Southern (7.6%), Lower Amudarya (7.2%) and Mirzachul (3.6%) economic regions is very low, and therefore it is proposed to accelerate agrarian-oriented industrial development in these regions.

9. The share of the Ferghana economic region in the industrial production of the republic in 2016 amounted to 17.4%, in 2017 - 18.5% and in 2018 - 19.9%, and rose to the second place among the economic regions of the republic. This economic region accounts for about 1/3 of the country's population and labor. Further localization of the latest industries in the Ferghana economic region, in particular, the automotive industry, the development of new industries such as mechanical engineering, electronics and electrical engineering is recommended.

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