Современное российское общество: политическое, социальное и культурное измерение

Analysis of the standard of living of the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Russian Federation

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The standard of living of the population depends on many parameters like food, housing, education, health and so on. After analyzing a number of academic literature, scientific articles written on the subject of the standard of living of the population, concluded that synthetic indicators such as GDP do not always reflect the real picture of the standard of living of the population. By following the data, I will confirm what I have said, for example: Kazakhstan's GDP is 224 billion dollars, while Russia's GDP is 2097 trillion dollars, however, this does not mean backward economy of Kazakhstan. Since each indicator reflects its share in the overall economy. By following the above calculations with some statistics, I wanted to reveal a picture of the standard of living of the middle layer of the population, because I belong to this layer.

The standard of living - the degree of satisfaction as material, spiritual and social needs of the population. Furthermore, the standard of living is a dynamic process that is feeling the effects of many factors.

Determining the level of life is a complex and ambiguous process, because on the one hand, it depends on the composition and size of the needs of society, and on the other, limiting the ability to meet them again on the basis of various factors determining the economic, political and social situation in the country.

Standard of living is defined by the system of indicators, each of which gives an idea of any one side of human life. There is a classification of indicators for individual characteristics: general and specific; economic and socio-demographic; objective and subjective; value and real; quantitative and qualitative; statistics and others.

On my opinion, the main indicator is the average monthly salary. It is the basis of all other indicators. Salary is the source of income of the population. Its value depends on the degree of satisfaction of human needs. People with high income have the opportunity to meet not only their material needs, but also spiritual. Therefore, the main direction of improvement of living standards should be to increase the average monthly wage of the population.

In order to analyze standard of living in Russia and Kazakhstan, let's start from the general and wide indicator as average monthly salary (AVS) of population.

In Moscow, AVS is $1,308.53, in Kazakhstan's capital city Astana, this indicator shows low numbers -$456.84. We should account that Astana is young city, which is developing day by day. Furthermore, we can see similarity in second productive cities of both country: St. Petersburg - $879.73, Almaty - $723.68.

In average Russian's AVC - **$731.98**, Kazakhstan's AVC - **$623**.

Judge the level of living in a particular country based only on the level of salary, of course, is incorrect. In this context the significant issue is to understand that the citizen of the state can afford needs for these funds. The primary need for each human being is the food. Following table shows the prices of basic products in each country. Taken products are ordinary diet of the average person. In addition, there is the average cost of the minimum daily intake of 2,000 kilocalories per person.

In account, I took the prices of milk (per 1l), bread, cheese (per1 kg), potato (per1 kg), tomato (per1 kg), rise (per1 kg), chicken (per1 kg), apple (per1 kg), orange (per1 kg), eggs (per

10 units), beer (per0.5 l), water (per1.5 l), cigarettes (per 1 unit).

The prices of food are not fluctuated in different region, for example: Minimm daily diet per person (2000 Kcal) in Moscow is $6.41, in Astana is $6.51. Average price of whole countries has the same difference as in capital cities: Russia - **$5.93**, Kazakhstan - **$5.83.**

Ability to purchase or lease of residential property plays an important role in the context of a comparison of standards of living. The cost of real estate in Russia is much higher than in other countries, especially in Moscow, where the price level is comparable to the most expensive and largest city of the world.

Average rent of flat:

Moscow - $1848.98 > Astana - $675.3

St. Petersburg - $1049.7 > Almaty - $658.38

Russia - **$932.29** > Kazakhstan - **$658.38.**

Average mortgage rate:

Moscow - 13.55% < Astana - 14.75 %

St. Petersburg - 13.9 % > Almaty - 13.79 %

Russia - **13.44 %** < Kazakhstan - **13.79 %.**

Any private property provides for a monthly payment of municipal services, the price of which is as much effect on standards of living. Furthermore, it's necessary to consider the aspect as transport cost.

In account I took utility cost, mobile connection 9per 1 minute), internet payment (per month), public transport, and oil (per 1l.).

In total, results of statistics were following:

Moscow - $174.77 > Astana - $105.28;

St.Petersburg - $166.21 > Almaty - $143.8;

Russia - **$163.3** > Kazakhstan - **$134.54.**

We can see that the main statistics does not show huge fluctuations between Russia and Kazakhstan. In order to see exact comparison, let's count each item by percentage.

Average monthly income: Russia (more 17.4%) › Kazakhstan;

The cost of everyday diet: Russia (more 1.7%) › Kazakhstan;

The average cost of estate: Russia (more 38.4%) ›Kazakhstan;

Mortgage rate: Russia ‹ Kazakhstan (more 0.35%);

Everyday needed service, utilities and transport: Russia (more 21.3%) › Kazakhstan.

So the ending result from these calculations is that the standard of living in Kazakhstan twice better than in Russia. It means population of our neighbor country spends on 43% more.

As I mentioned above, there are many indicators that can correct the numbers. Furthermore, we cannot forget that territory of Russia is 6.3 times larger than Kazakhstan's, and population is 9.2 times more. Such huge differences make difficulties to analyze and create a real picture of standard of living.

Источники и литература

1) Агентства Республики Казахстан по статистике - www.stat.kz
2) Федеральная служба государственной статистики России - www.gks.ru

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