

The experience of Kazakhstan in conducting time use surveys

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Abstract

For many years, Kazakhstan has paid considerable attention to gender equality and, as the national statistical office, significant attention to the development of gender statistics. One indication of this is the creation of a separate division on gender statistics and Millennium Development Goals indicators in 2011.

Kazakhstan is constantly striving to provide international comparable data and to fill in any missing statistical information to adequately reflect the situation of topical issues. The statistical office's work focuses on the improvement of tools for statistical data collection by the inclusion of new indicators and implementation of new surveys, with the objective of meeting users' new information needs, including those users at international level.

Gender statistics is one of the priority areas of statistics, which focuses on a wide range of statistics, including the use of time by the population of the republic.

It is generally known that one of the most important sources of data for gender statistics are time-use surveys. Taking this into account and showing interest in understanding the time distribution between work and family life, the Agency of Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan conducted for the first time a one-time survey "Time budget of the population" in 2006. The survey covered 3,000 households in the Republic of Kazakhstan, and all members of the household participated, including children aged 6 to 18. Time use data was collected for 7 days (all days of the week).

Following the international recommendations of conducting time use surveys every 5-6 years, Agency of Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan conducted a second time use survey in 2012. 33,830 respondents aged 10 years and older participated in the survey. It should be noted that the survey instruments in 2012 (Form D 001 "Diary of the time use") is conceptually different from the form used in 2006. Form D 001 is designed as a 24-hour diary for one weekday and one weekend day in the calendar week of the respondent with intervals of 10 minutes, that is 144 intervals per day. The use of shorter intervals allows obtaining more precise information.

Being a full version of the diary for registration in written form, Form D 001 was designed for self-completion by respondents, with the exception of children, elderly and partially capable respondents who were assisted by interviewers. Interviewers also coded activities indicated by respondents in the diary in accordance with the Directory of Activities.

The Directory of Activities consists of 10 major activity groups (personal care, employment, training, housekeeping, communication, sports activities, hobbies, movement, etc.), and included about 100 types of daily activities. This directory was developed based on the International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics (trial ICATUS from the *Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use: Measuring Paid and Unpaid Work*).

In addition to the time spent in the activities according to the directory, data related to the place, with whom and transportation type were also collected.

According to the results from the survey, the republic's population aged 10 years and older spends on average 12 hours and 11 minutes (or 50.8% of the total daily time) in personal care (sleeping, eating, personal care), 3 hours and 5 minutes (12.9%) in housekeeping, 2 hours and 45 minutes (11.5%) in work (employment), 51 minutes (3.5%) in commuting, and 49 minutes (3.4%) in training. The remaining 4 hours and 18 minutes (17.9%) were their spare time.

Depending on age, gender, location, employment status and day of the week, the way people spend time in a day varies considerably. For example, working persons aged 15 years and older spend 18.8% of their time at work, whereas those not working only 1.5%.

| | Working persons 15 years and older | Not working persons 15 years and older |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Work | 18.8% | 1.5% |
| Housekeeping | 12.2% | 15.8% |
| Free time | 15.7% | 21.7% |

On average, male population aged 10 years and older spend 3 hours and 23 minutes in a day at work, whereas women only spend 2 hours and 14 minutes. On the other hand, while women spend 4 hours and 6 minutes in a day engaged in housekeeping activities, men only devote 1 hour and 51 minutes to these activities.

| | Male population aged 10 years and older | Female population aged 10 years and older |
|--------------|---|---|
| Work | 3 hours 23 minutes | 2 hours 14 minutes |
| Housekeeping | 1 hour 51 minutes | 4 hours 6 minutes |

The results of the survey can be disaggregated by sex, age, type of settlement (urban / rural), education level and employment status. Data from the survey represent a vast source of information for analysis in areas such as labor productivity (including the work of women and their contribution to the economy), the compilation of the system of national accounts and the calculation of wealth indicators based on the information about leisure activities, among others.