

İQTİSADİYYAT VƏ İDARƏETMƏ

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THE IMPACT OF FOOD SECURITY ON THE WELL-BEING AND STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE POPULATION

Summary

The work is devoted to the problem of ensuring food independence and its impact on the development of the standard of living of the population in the Republic of Azerbaijan, which is due to the fact that food security is a factor that has a major impact on the well-being and standard of living of the population.

***The purpose** of this work is to determine the impact of food security on the well-being of the population.*

***Methodology**-the article uses statistical and tabular methods, methods of grouping, economic and comparative analysis, synthesis and expert method.*

***Scientific novelty**-the main elements of socio-economic development and the standard of living of the population are determined, consumer spending for each person in the households of the republic and the standard of living of the population are also noted.*

***The results of the study** - assessed the state of food and social security of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2019-2023. The direct impact of food security on social development has been established, threats to the social development of the labor resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan have been analyzed and identified. Proposals are given to ensure food security, as well as to solve social problems and increase the standard of living of the population.*

***Keywords:** food security, independence, standard of living, food consumption, consumer spending, income of the population*

JEL CODE: E; E2; E24

INTRODUCTION

Hunger is a lack of food. For various reasons: crop failure, fire, drought, locusts, supply disruptions, etc. Holodomor is a technology for killing an entire nation. In 2020, almost 811 million people were hungry in the world, 161 million more than a year earlier. The most hungry people live in Asia (418 million), in Africa, which ranks second (282 million), the third place is occupied by the region of Latin America and the Caribbean (60 million). The most affected region is Africa: one in five people on the continent is hungry, which is more than twice the global average [20].

As is known, in 1920 there was an influx of Tatar migrants to Azerbaijan due to mass starvation. This influx in the 1920s occurred for two reasons: as human resources workers and famine in the Volga region and Crimea. It should be noted that the Azerbaijani village was included in the orbit of the Bolsheviks' economic experiments related to the policy of food distribution. Despite the short duration of this policy (7 months), facts of famine and peasant riots were recorded in the counties of Azerbaijan. The reason for this was, on the one hand, the drought, for example, in 1925, as well as the aggravating hardships of the peasants, uncontrolled requisitions from food agents, as well as the obligation to feed and shoe soldiers of the XI Red Army stationed in Azerbaijan [19]. The above example proves that human hunger forces them to leave their permanent place of residence. Therefore, ensuring food security in the countries of the world is considered the main important issue facing all States.

Ensuring food security in the country is considered the most important component of its economic and national security. Therefore, the problem of ensuring food independence and its impact on social development, as well as on the standard of living of people, is relevant not only for the Republic of Azerbaijan, but also for its economic regions, especially for large cities. This is due to the fact that the country's food independence and ensuring its security are the most important factor affecting the development of the socio-economic level of citizens, including the standard of living and well-being of the population.

After the independence of Azerbaijan, domestic agriculture was in serious crisis for a long time, the number of cattle was declining, which led to a sharp reduction in meat and dairy products. The acreage for crop production was also reduced. The area of grape, grain, cotton and other fields decreased, which led to a decrease in the volume of production of these agricultural crops.

As a result of the introduction of Armenian aggression in the occupied areas around the former Karabakh (about 20% of the total area of Azerbaijan), our country faced the problem of ensuring food independence, which posed a threat to its national interests and social security of the population.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study used statistical data on the main indicators of socio-economic development of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2019-2023. Also, when analyzing data reflecting the country's food security problems related to the development of socio-economic issues, including those related to the development of the standard of living of the population, the statistical research method, tabular, grouping methods, economic and comparative analysis, synthesis, and expert methods were used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The problem of ensuring food security in Azerbaijan is urgent. Since this problem requires an assessment of the state of food security, identification of its threats in order to ensure sustainable economic growth of the agricultural industry. As can be seen, the main task of the agricultural industry is to supply the population with high-quality domestic food products in a volume not lower than the threshold standard of living. At the same time, the threshold level of providing high-quality foodstuffs should be 80% of the total volume of food.

In 2023, as part of food products, the amount and volume of imports of all types of meat (78483 thousand dollars and 37493 thousand tons), fresh fruits (131897 thousand dollars and 129165 thousand tons), wheat (303983 thousand dollars and 1175 thousand

tons), etc. was quite high. Since, in 2023, the share of imports in the foreign trade turnover of the republic amounted to 33.4%, which indicates an average economic dependence on foreign supplies of food products [1, s. 13]. The share of the top ten countries in Azerbaijan's foreign trade turnover in 2019 was 2.3% in Spain, which took 10th place, and 18.0% in Italy, which took 1st place. And in 2023, this figure in Italy was 30.6%, and in Spain it was 1.7% [1, s. 20]. Russia took the first place in terms of the share of the main import partner countries in 2023 - 18.3%, and the Republic of Korea took the 10th place - 2.5% [1, p. 26].

One of the goals of long-term sustainable development for the period up to 2030, in the FAO concept, is the absolute leveling of the phenomenon of hunger, and providing all categories of the population, including the poor, socially limited, infants with a sufficient amount of nutritious and safe food [6, pp.457-463]. The FAO statistics for 2022 show indicators of the prevalence of malnutrition by regions of the world and in a cross-section of countries (Figure 1).

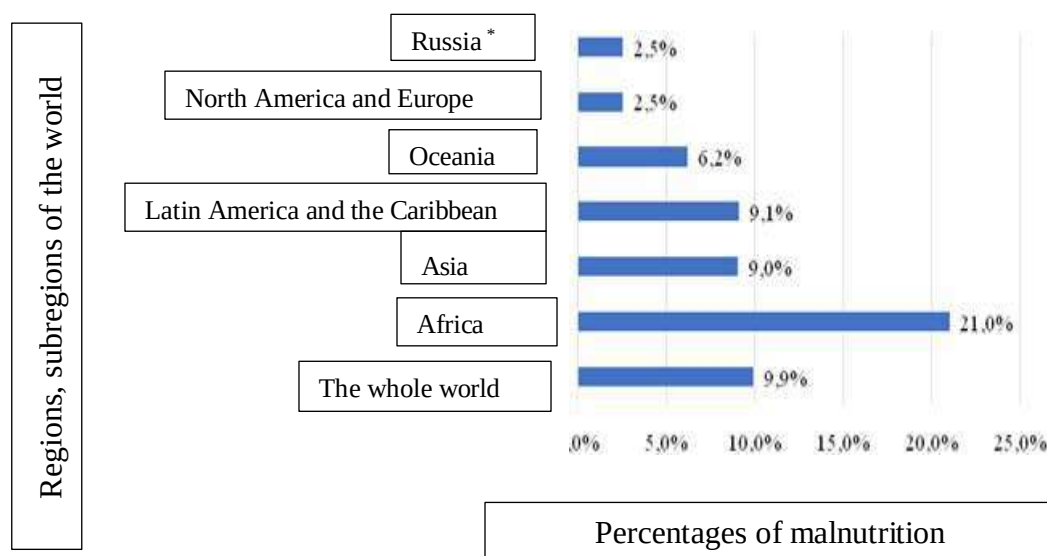


Figure 1. Indicators of the prevalence of malnutrition by regions and subregions of the world

Note: developed by the author based on FAO data for 2022

The value of the indicator for Russia* and the countries of North America and Europe should be understood as <2.5%. This indicator means that in practice there are malnourished people among the population: children under the age of 5, suffering from stunted growth or exhaustion, and those who died for these reasons before the age of 5. The value of this indicator <2.5% is extremely low, and typical for developed countries. In 2020, the number of undernourished people worldwide amounted to 811 million people, which shows that about 1/10 of the entire world population is deprived of adequate nutrition, and leveling the phenomenon of hunger will cost the world community incredible efforts [5, p.465-473].

Collecting and evaluating statistical material on the consumption of food (foodstuffs) per person in Azerbaijan in 2012-2023, the following results were obtained (Table 1).

Data analysis shows that from 2016 to 2023, the specific volume of grain consumption in Azerbaijan decreased by 42.9%. The positive dynamics of growth occurred in potatoes-27.5%, vegetables-26.3%, fruits and berries-9.9%, milk and dairy products –

Table 1. Indicators of food consumption per person in Azerbaijan in 2012-2023, kg/consumer (per year)

Period / Products	Cereals	Potato	Vegetables	Fruits and berries	All kinds of meat	Milk and dairy products	Eggs (pcs)	Fish and food
2016	9.8	71.6	110.4	72.7	33.5	246.2	154	7.0
2017	9.9	74.9	105.1	70.4	35.5	236.2	156	7.6
2018	10.0	75.2	104.1	71.2	37.4	238.1	158	7.9
2019	9.8	73.5	112.9	74.2	39.8	240.2	153	7.4
2020	10.5	82.2	127.7	80.4	40.8	246.3	165	7.6
2021	10.4	83.3	134.1	87.4	40.8	257.6	175	7.3
2022	8.8	84.2	138.2	93.7	41.2	253.3	170	7.4
2023	5.6	91.3	139.4	79.9	42.1	259.3	179	7.6
An ave-rage of 8 years	9.35	79.53	121.49	78.74	38.89	247.15	163.75	7.48

Note: compiled by the author based on data [3]

5.3%, eggs – 16.2% and fish and fish products - 8.6%. Such dynamics of changes in the structure of average per capita consumption of certain types of products is mainly due to the fact that during the period under review, eating habits and ideas about nutrition and a healthy lifestyle have significantly changed: the amount of consumed "fast" carbohydrates in the form of grain products began to decrease from the previously familiar consumer basket. And in the rest of the marked products, such as potatoes, vegetables, fruits and berries, all kinds of meat, milk and dairy products, eggs and fish, the number of consumption increased.

An analysis of the indicators of the consumer price index of the population in Azerbaijan shows that in 2023, compared with 2018, the total number of goods and services increased by 1.39 times. It can be noted that the presence of an increase in prices for consumer goods is due to the influence of an increase in the inflation rate during this period [3].

Consumer spending per capita in households of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2015-2023 is shown in Table 2 [13].

An analysis of consumer spending per capita in households of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2015-2023 shows that there is an increase in total consumer spending by 41.7%, food by 53.7%, recreation and cultural services by 24.8%, education spending by 16.7% and other goods and services by 53.9%. An increase in household rates on consumer goods by 1.42 times over the comparable period is associated, respectively, with an increase in prices for goods and services. We can note that this increase is most often observed in tobacco products (1.54 times), in water, light, gas and other fuels (1.52 times), in transport (1.5 times) and in healthcare (1.48 times).

It is also important to analyze the dynamics of changes in nominal and real incomes of the population, which directly affect their standard of living. The Republic of Azerbaijan has adopted a number of state programs to improve the standard of living of the population, including the "State

Program in the field of demography and development of the welfare of the population in the Republic of Azerbaijan" (2004), "Socio-economic development of regions in 2019-2023 in the Republic of Azerbaijan" (2019) is of particular importance. Table 3 shows the level of real and nominal incomes of the population three times.

Table 2. Consumer spending per capita in Azerbaijani households, manat

Indicators / period	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Deviation for 2023 from 2015, %, (+,-)
Consumer spending, total	245.6	264.7	278.2	286.0	298.4	297.8	308.6	333.4	348.1	+41,7
On food products	100.7	108.6	119.4	121.3	125.4	130.8	136.5	147.0	154.8	+53,7
Tobacco products	2.6	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.4	5.6	6.2	+1.38 times
Clothes and shoes	16.9	17.9	18.0	18.2	18.4	19.0	18.7	19.4	20.1	+18,9
Water, light, gas and other fuels	18.2	19.8	20.5	21.7	22.6	23.5	25.2	27.2	27.7	+52,2
Household items, house-hold appliances and daily home care	23.2	24.2	24.4	25.1	25.6	24.9	24.4	25.8	26.9	+5%
Health services	12.0	12.9	13.1	13.8	14.4	14.8	16.4	17.4	17.8	+48,3
Transportation services	15.3	16.7	16.9	17.6	19.0	19.6	20.0	21.8	22.9	+49,7
Communication services	8.2	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.7	9.9	10.3	11.2	11.4	+39,0
Recreation and cultural services	10.9	11.5	11.7	12.0	12.7	10.5	11.4	13.0	13.6	+24,8
Education expenses	4.8	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.5	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.6	+16,7
Other goods and services	32.8	35.6	36.2	37.8	40.8	35.5	36.4	39.7	41.1	+25,3

Note: compiled by the author based on data [13]

Table 3. Nominal and real incomes of the population

Indicators /Period	2010	2015	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Increase (decrease) in 2023 compared to 2010, times
Nominal incomes of the population, million manats	25607.0	41744.8	56769.0	55754.1	57206.8	69163.0	78050.2	3.05
Nominal income remaining at the disposal, million manats	23405.0	38200.0	52188.3	50525.4	51221.9	61453.7	69341.2	2.96
Nominal income remaining at the disposal, million manats	331.5	466.9	635.1	707.7	732.1	840.0	933.9	2.82
The real income remaining at the disposal, one million manats	22142.9	36730.8	50865.8	49149.2	48005.5	53954.1	63732.7	2.88

Note: compiled by the author based on data [3]

An analysis of the data in the table reflecting the incomes of the population for 2010-2023 shows that the country has seen an increase in the level of nominal incomes of the population by 3.05 times, and nominal incomes remaining at its disposal by 2.96 times. Also, in the amount of average monthly nominal incomes reflecting the purchasing power of the population, one can see an increase of 2.82 times, respectively.

When choosing a country to live in and move to permanent residence, a person should conduct a thorough analysis and study various aspects, including housing. One of the most important indicators is the ease/difficulty of legalizing stay in the state, as well as access to the labor market and medical services.

Every year, the ranking of the countries of the world in terms of the quality of life of the population is determined. The rating of this indicator, which will help you choose a country for moving according to the standard of living and well-being of the population. Most of the countries on the list are members of the European Union.

The top countries to move to are based on an in-depth analysis of factors such as income levels, health, education, safety and environmental pollution. In 2023, Luxembourg took the first place among the top 10 countries (IQ score-200.1 points), and Spain took the tenth place (IQ score-177.7 points) [22].

In 2024, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway, Canada, Finland, Germany, Australia, the Netherlands and New Zealand took the top 10 countries in terms of quality of life. Denmark also ranks first in terms of job satisfaction for expats. 84% of foreign citizens are satisfied with the balance of work and personal life in the country. According to the World Happiness Report, Denmark is recognized as the second happiest country in the world in 2024 [21, 22]. The high level of equality in the country and its responsibility in matters of social security are mentioned as the main factors of this happiness. Azerbaijan ranked 63rd in terms of the standard of living of the population in 2024 and became the second in the list of CIS countries after Belarus.

DISCUSSION

In a study on food security, Shantani K.S.S. notes that food security, defined as having reliable access to a sufficient amount of inexpensive and nutritious food, is a fundamental concern of any nation. In India, a country with a population of more than 1.3 billion people, ensuring food security is a crucial task and an urgent need. Despite significant successes in agricultural production and economic development, the country continues to face various problems that threaten the food security of millions of its citizens [15, pp.1-3].

The FAO identifies a widespread definition of food security in the following aspects: Food availability: the availability of sufficient quantities of food of appropriate quality, supplied through domestic production or import (including food aid). Access to food: Individuals' access to sufficient resources (benefits) to purchase appropriate food for a full diet. Rights are defined as the totality of all types of goods that a person can dispose of, taking into account the legal, political, economic and social conditions of the community in which he lives (including traditional rights such as access to shared resources). Use: The use of food by providing adequate nutrition, clean water, sanitation and medical care to achieve a state of nutritional well-being in which all physiological needs are met. This highlights the importance of non-food products to ensure food security. Stability: In order to ensure food security, the population, household or individual must have constant access to adequate nutrition. They should not be at risk of losing access to food as a result of sudden shocks (for example, an economic or climate crisis) or cyclical phenomena (for example, seasonal food shortages). Thus, the concept of stability can relate to both

availability and access to food security [11, pp.1-6].

The conference dedicated to "Financing for the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms" identified key ideas in the following areas: the world is far from achieving sustainable development. Development Goal (SDG) 2 is the eradication of hunger, while the global prevalence of malnutrition has remained almost at the same level for three consecutive years after a sharp increase following the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2023, between 713 and 757 million people may face hunger – that's one in 11 people in the world and one in five in Africa. There is still an increase in hunger in Africa, but the situation has remained relatively unchanged in Asia, while notable progress has been made in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is also noted that paying attention to economic access to nutritious food, updated and improved estimates show that more than a third of the world's people – about 2.8 billion people - could not afford a healthy diet in 2022. Since the inequality of countries living in different living standards is obvious, in low-income countries about 71.5% of the population cannot afford a healthy diet compared to lower-middle-income countries (52.6%), upper-middle-income countries (21.5%) and high-income countries (6.3%) [16, pp.18-20].

Francesco B. Briefly discussing the role of food security in human development, they concluded that food insecurity may be the result of a lack of education, health care or other basic opportunities on which people's well-being depends [12, p.2].

Having studied estimates of the standard of living of the country's population based on international integral indicators, it was found that in 2020 the coefficient of purchasing power of household incomes $Kpsdn = 4.08$; income poverty coefficient $Cbd = 0.12$; Gini index $= 0.368$ [13, pp.106-116].

The implementation of the strategic development course adopted in Azerbaijan continues consistently. The development paradigm is formulated in this course. Its main factors are determined. These factors are recorded in the document "Azerbaijan 2030: national priorities of socio-economic development". This document defines 5 national priorities [2]: -a sustainable, growing, competitive economy; -a dynamic, inclusive and socially just society; -the competitive space of human capital and modern innovations; - a big return to the territories liberated from occupation; - a clean environment and a country of "green growth".

On February 2, 2022, the Government of the Republic, in its resolution "On urgent measures related to strengthening anti-inflationary measures in the Republic of Azerbaijan", set itself the task of reaching thresholds for all macroeconomic values by 2023. First of all, this applies to food products [4].

Food security is one of the main goals of the agrarian and economic policy of the states. In its general form, it forms the vector of movement of any national food system to an ideal state. In this sense, the pursuit of food security is an ongoing process. At the same time, in order to achieve it, there is often a change in development priorities and mechanisms for the implementation of agricultural policy [7, pp.146-157].

In the report "The state of food security and nutrition in the world in 2023." It is noted that the global assessment of the situation in the field of food security and nutrition for 2022 is an overview of the situation in the world, which has not yet fully recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic and is now feeling the consequences of the war in Ukraine, which caused turmoil in the food and energy markets. The pandemic has had a devastating impact on people's lives and livelihoods and caused a global economic downturn that has negated the results of three decades of poverty reduction and contributed to an increase in the number of hungry people by almost 90 million in just one year (between 2019 and 2020). One year later, a partial recovery of the world's economies has already begun.

However, it should be noted that the pace of the country's recovery to the level of the previous year was not the same in different countries and within them. In low- and lower-middle-income countries, the situation has begun to improve at a much slower pace than in other groups of countries. And the population of the disadvantaged countries was able to recover the income lost in the previous year with great difficulty. Even as a result of the recovery, the number of hungry people worldwide increased by 38 million in 2021 compared to the previous year [17].

As a result of our analysis of the impact of food security on the standard of living of the population, we can formulate the general ideas outlined below: 1. The problem of food security is one of the most important in all countries of the world. 2. Solving the problem of food security primarily has a positive impact on the standard of living of the population. 3. The standard of living of the population directly depends on the provision of food and the level of income they receive.

CONCLUSIONS

In order to achieve the goals set in the food security program adopted in 2001, the State has defined a strategy consisting of two stages: 1. Implementation of short- and medium-term transitional measures to ensure food security in the course of reforms. 2. The main goal of long-term measures in the field of food security is to increase the profitability and competitiveness of Azerbaijan's agriculture, as well as its integration into the international economic system.

In addition, the list of risks and threats to the food security of the state has been expanded. The expansion of risks due to such aspects as a decrease in the fertility of agricultural land due to their irrational use. Phytosanitary and veterinary risks were also included in the risk system, and social and sanitary-epidemiological threats to food security became especially significant in the period 2020-2025 [6].

The following are highlighted as areas for improving food security:

- ensuring a program-oriented approach in the formation of the regulatory framework for food security;
- changing the mechanisms for ensuring food security based on the direct innovation and investment model of state assistance to commodity producers;
- overcoming the transformation of the structure of agricultural production, especially at the expense of the meat and dairy industry;
- providing a breakthrough in the intensification of production;
- improving the quality of management that meets the requirements of food security.

The directions of development of the food security system in Azerbaijan are: - ensuring the protection of the population from low-quality products; - minimization of the volume and structure of imports due to the intensification and introduction of innovative production technologies, especially in food sectors; - effective provision of distribution and sustainable growth of the agro-industrial complex; - stimulation of the socio-economic potential of the population for the development of the food self-provision system and high-quality food products.

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ВЛИЯНИЕ ПРОДОВОЛЬСТВЕННОЙ БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ НА БЛАГОСОСТОЯНИЕ И УРОВЕНЬ ЖИЗНИ НАСЕЛЕНИЯ

Резюме

Работа посвящена проблеме обеспечения продовольственной независимости и ее влиянию на развитие уровня жизни населения в Республике Азербайджан, которая обусловлена тем, что продовольственная безопасность является фактором, оказывающим важнейшее влияние на благосостояние и уровень жизни населения.

Целью данной работы является определение выявлении продовольственной безопасности на благосостояние населения.

Методология – в статье применен статистический и табличный метод, методы группировки, экономического и сравнительного анализа, синтеза и экспертный метод.

Научная новизна – определены основные элементы социально-экономической развития и уровень жизни населения, также отмечены потребительские расходы на каждого человека в домохозяйствах республики и уровень жизни населения.

Результаты исследования – оценены состояния продовольственной и социальной безопасности Республики Азербайджан за 2019-2023 гг. Установлено прямое воздействие продовольственной безопасности на социальную развитие, проанализированы и выявлены угрозы социального развития трудовых ресурсов Республики Азербайджан. Даны предложения по обеспечению продовольственной безопасности, а также по решению социальных проблем и роста уровня жизни населения.

Ключевые слова: продовольственная безопасность, независимость, уровень жизни, потребления продуктов питания, потребительские расходы, доходы населения

Vilayət İsmayilov
Alla Tkachenko

QIDA TƏHLÜKƏSİZLİYİNİN ƏHALİNİN RİFAHINA VƏ HƏYAT SƏVİYYƏSİNƏ TƏSİRİ

Xülasə

Məqalə Azərbaycan Respublikasında ərzaq müstəqilliyinin əhalinin həyat səviyyəsinin təmin edilməsi probleminə və inkişafına təsirinin müəyyənləşdirilməsinə həsr edilir, bu da ərzaq təhlükəsizliyinin əhalinin rifahına və həyat səviyyəsinə mühüm təsir göstərən əsas amil kimi qəbul edilməsi ilə əlaqədardır.

Tədqiqat işinin məqsədi əhalinin rifahı üçün ərzaq təhlükəsizliyinin müəyyən edilməsindən ibarətdir.

Metodologiya – məqalədə ərzaq təhlükəsizliyinin əhalinin həyat səviyyəsinə təsirini əks etdirən məlumatların təhlil edilməsi məqsədilə statistik və cədvəl metodu, qruplaşdırma metodları, iqtisadi və müqayisəli təhlil, sintez və ekspert metodu tətbiq olunur.

Elmi yenilik – sosial-iqtisadi inkişafın əsas elementləri və əhalinin həyat səviyyəsi müəyyən edilmiş, respublikanın ev təsərrüfatlarında hər bir insanın istehlak xərcləri və əhalinin həyat səviyyəsi qeyd edilmişdir.

Tədqiqatın nəticələri – 2019-2023-cü illər üçün Azərbaycan Respublikasının ərzaq və sosial təhlükəsizliyinin vəziyyəti qiymətləndirilmişdir. Ərzaq təhlükəsizliyinin təmin edilməsi, həmçinin sosial problemlərin həlli və əhalinin həyat səviyyəsinin yüksəldilməsi üçün tövsiyə və təkliflər verilmişdir.

Açar sözlər: ərzaq təhlükəsizliyi, müstəqillik, yaşayış səviyyəsi, ərzaq istehlakı, istehlak xərcləri, əhalinin gəlirləri