

# Administrative-territorial units of the Republic of Kazakhstan

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### 1. KEY POINTS

In the Republic of Kazakhstan, as of January 1, 2026, the number of regions is 17, districts - 195, cities - 90, including republican significance - 3, township - 29, rural areas – 2 157, villages – 6096.

The largest number of districts in the republic is in the Akmola region, and the cities of regional significance and village administrations of akims - in the Karaganda region. In Akmola and Kostanai regions, there are more rural administrations of akims, and the largest number of rural settlements is in the Turkestan region.

### 2. Administrative-territorial units of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as of January 1, 2026

	Districts			Settlements				Office of the Akim					
	total	of them: districts in cities		cities			township	villages	township		area		rural
		republican significance	regional significance	total	of them:				total	of them: consisting of only one IS*	total	of them: consisting of only one IS*	
					regional significance	district significance							
<b>Republic of Kazakhstan</b>	195	19	6	90	39	48	29	6096	27	19	2157	512	106
Abay	10	-	-	4	2	2	2	320	2	2	134	39	-
Akmola	17	-	-	11	3	8	5	574	5	4	190	22	38
Aktobe	14	-	2	8	1	7	-	312	-	-	133	32	2
Almaty	9	-	-	5	2	3	-	368	-	-	131	33	-
Atyrau	7	-	-	2	1	1	-	153	-	-	67	23	-
Batys Kazakhstan	12	-	-	2	1	1	3	405	3	-	147	25	-
Zhambyl	12	-	2	4	1	3	-	353	-	-	146	38	3
Zhetysu	8	-	-	6	2	4	-	350	-	-	112	15	-
Karagandy	9	-	2	8	6	2	8	342	7	7	151	54	5
Kostanay	16	-	-	6	4	2	3	492	3	2	156	27	36
Kyzylorda	7	-	-	4	2	2	2	222	2	-	142	97	-
Mangystau	5	-	-	3	2	1	-	59	-	-	34	24	12
Pavlodar	10	-	-	3	3	-	3	345	3	3	118	15	5
Soltustik Kazakhstan	13	-	-	5	1	4	-	590	-	-	186	26	-
Turkistan	14	-	-	7	3	4	-	794	-	-	174	21	3
Ulytau	2	-	-	3	3	-	2	72	2	1	33	11	-
Shygys Kazakhstan	11	-	-	6	2	4	1	345	-	-	103	10	2
Astana city	6	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Almaty city	8	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shymkent city	5	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

IS - independent settlements.

### 3. GLOSSARY

The territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan is divided into two main categories - regions and settlements.

**A region** - a part of the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan, including several settlements, formed and managed in the interests of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The regions are the region, district, rural district as the main links of the republican administrative-territorial structure.

**Settlement** - a part of the densely populated territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan, formed as a result of economic and other social activities of citizens, with a population of at least 50 people, recorded and registered in the manner prescribed by the laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan and managed by local representative and executive bodies. Settlements are divided into urban and rural.

**Urban settlements** - cities of republican, regional and district significance, settlements.

**Rural settlements** - all other settlements, regardless of their administrative subordination.

**Cities of republican significance** - settlements of special national importance or population of more than one million people.

**Cities of regional significance** - settlements that are large economic and cultural centers with a developed industrial and social infrastructure and a population of more than 50 thousand people.

**Cities of district significance** - settlements on the territory of which there are industrial enterprises, public utilities, state housing stock, a developed network of educational and healthcare organizations, cultural, educational and commercial facilities, with a population of at least 10 thousand people.

**District in the city** - a district in a city of regional significance, a city of republican significance, a capital with a population of over 400 thousand people.

**Settlement** - settlements with a population of at least 3 thousand people. Settlements are also equated with settlements located in areas of medical importance, with a population of at least 2 thousand people, of which the number of people who come annually for treatment and recreation is at least half. They also include holiday villages, which are places of summer recreation for citizens, in which at least 25 percent of the adult population is constantly engaged in agriculture.

**Villages** - Settlements with a population of at least 50 people.

### 4. USEFUL LINKS

- [NK RK 11-2021 Classifier of administrative-territorial objects \(CATO\)](#)
- [Law «On the administrative-territorial structure of the Republic of Kazakhstan»](#)

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