



## METHODOLOGY OF ANALYSIS OF COMPETITIVENESS OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN BUKHARA REGION

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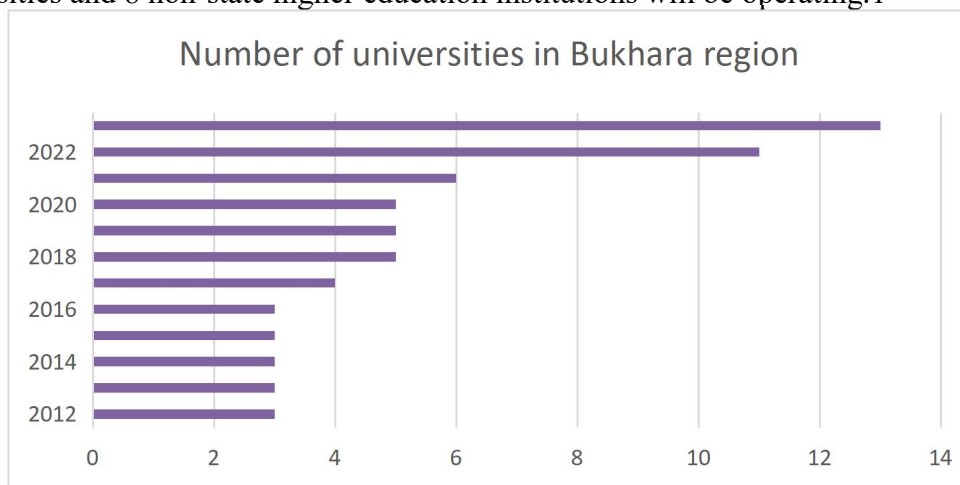
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**Annotation:** This article presents the existing higher education institutions in the Bukhara region, their competitiveness indicators, and suggestions for increasing competitiveness. Statistical data were used in accordance with the data of the State Statistics Committee under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

**Key words:** competitiveness, competitiveness factors, income, costs

The Concept of Development of the Higher Education System of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030, approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-5847 dated October 8, 2019, has led to a significant increase in the higher education system, its coverage, and the number of professors and teachers working in higher education. In particular, the share of the Bukhara region in the republican service sector is around 6%.

By 2024, the number of higher education institutions in the Bukhara region will be 13, and 5 state universities and 8 non-state higher education institutions will be operating.<sup>1</sup>



The dataset presents the number of universities in the Bukhara region over a specific time frame, illustrating a steady increase in higher education institutions. Initially, the number of universities remained constant at 3 for several periods, suggesting a phase of stability. However, a notable upward trend begins, with the number of universities rising incrementally from 4 to 13.

This growth may be indicative of strategic investments in educational infrastructure, reflecting the region's efforts to enhance access to higher education. The observed expansion aligns with global trends

<sup>1</sup> It was prepared based on the information of the State Statistics Committee under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

where increasing the availability of universities correlates with broader socio-economic development goals, such as improved literacy rates, workforce specialization, and innovation capacity.

Key factors likely contributing to this growth include government policies prioritizing education, an increasing demand for skilled professionals, and regional population growth. Additionally, the emergence of new universities could signify diversification in academic programs and research opportunities, catering to evolving market and societal needs.

Future research could analyze the impact of this expansion on educational outcomes, local economies, and social mobility in the region. Moreover, a comparative analysis with other regions could provide deeper insights into the effectiveness of educational policies and investments in Bukhara.

### Number of students of higher education institutions in Bukhara region

The dataset illustrates the dynamic trends in the number of students enrolled in higher education institutions in the Bukhara region over a 12-year period, from 2012 to 2023. The data reveals a gradual increase in enrollment, followed by a dramatic surge in recent years, indicating significant changes in higher education accessibility and demand within the region.

From 2012 to 2016, student enrollment fluctuated modestly, with values ranging between 13,754 and 13,990. This relatively stable period suggests a plateau in higher education capacity or a balance between supply and demand. However, from 2017 onwards, the numbers began to climb sharply. By 2023, the student population reached 82,951, marking an almost sixfold increase compared to the initial enrollment figures in 2012.

The exponential growth observed from 2018 to 2023 is particularly striking, suggesting a transformative phase for higher education in Bukhara. This period likely reflects both quantitative and qualitative enhancements in educational opportunities, including the establishment of new institutions, diversification of academic programs, and improvements in educational quality.

Further investigation is warranted to analyze the broader implications of this growth. Areas for future research include evaluating the impact of increased enrollment on academic standards, graduate employment rates, and the capacity of institutions to sustain this growth. Additionally, a regional comparison could shed light on how Bukhara's educational policies and practices align with national and global trends.

### Number of graduates of higher education institutions in Bukhara region.

The dataset provides an overview of the number of graduates from higher education institutions in the Bukhara region between 2012 and 2023. The data reveals a trend of gradual growth in the earlier years, followed by a more substantial increase in recent years, reflecting the overall expansion of the region's higher education system.

From 2012 to 2017, the number of graduates remained relatively stable, with figures oscillating between 3,026 and 3,409. This period of consistency likely corresponds to a steady state in the region's higher education capacity and graduate output. However, from 2018 onwards, the numbers began to rise

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bukhara region	13754	13790	14580	15656	16990	17939	18895	19771	20625	21959	22484	2382951
Bukhara region	026	138	484	357	376	409	523	770	784	214	017	1182

more noticeably, reaching 11,182 in 2023—nearly a fourfold increase from 2012.

The marked increase in the number of graduates since 2018 is indicative of a maturing education ecosystem. However, the slight decline observed in 2022 (from 6,214 to 6,017) may suggest short-term disruptions or capacity constraints, though this was followed by a sharp increase in 2023. This rebound

could point to adjustments in institutional operations or external factors influencing graduation rates.

Future research could investigate the quality of education alongside the increasing quantity of graduates. Key areas of interest include the employability and professional success of graduates, the alignment of academic programs with labor market demands, and the sustainability of the region's higher education growth. Comparative studies with other regions would also provide valuable insights into the efficacy of policies implemented in the Bukhara region.

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