

RA ARARAT MARZ

Marz centre – Artashat town



Territory	2096 square km
Agricultural land	88700 ha
<i>including</i> arable land	33300 ha
Urban communities	4
Rural communities	93
Rural settlements	94
Population as of January 1, 2003	272.1 ths. persons
<i>including</i>	
urban	80.1 ths. persons
rural	192.0 ths. persons

RA Ararat marz occupies about 7.1% of the territory of the Republic of Armenia. The population of the marz comprised the 8.5% of RA total population in 2002. While the 70.6% of population resides in the rural settlements.

RA Ararat marz is situated in the south-western part of the republic and occupies the considerable part of Ararat Valley. It borders with Turkey and the Autonomous Republic of Nakhijevan. The immediate neighbourhood with Yerevan is profitable for its economic development.

It includes the regions of Ararat, Artashat and Masis. Artashat, Ararat, Vedi and Masis are towns of the marz and there are also 94 rural settlements.

The territory of the marz was once a part of Vostan province of Ararat State of historical Armenia. Two capitals of historical ancient Armenia (*Artashat and Dvin*) were situated in the territory of the latter. *Artashat* (in 180 B.C. II century) was situated in the confluence of ancient riverbeds of Yeraskh and Metsamor, in the hills of Khor Virap and thereabout, in the distance of 10 km to the South-East from present-day Artashat. Being situated in the fertile valley of Ararat, in the junctions of commercial roads, the town used to be one of the most developed towns of both Armenia and The East. It used to be the capital for about 500 years. None of the towns left such a significant trace in the history of Armenian people as Artashat did.

Dvin - the capital was founded in the 30s of IV century when the Armenian King Khosrov Kotak (330-338) moving the royal court from Artashat to Dvin declared it a new capital. At that period Dvin was considered to be not only political and economical centre but also the centre of religion and culture (the traces of the hall of patriarchate, stationary, lyceum, treasure house, repository of ancient manuscripts as well as Catholic Church built in the place of pagan temple were preserved). Dvin used to be a big centre of international commerce as well. Four highways were crossed here thus Caucasus and South Russia, Asia Minor and South Europe, North Africa and Byzantium, Persian Gulf and Middle Asia.

Khor Virap monastery-castle is situated in the vicinity of Pokr Vedi village of the marz, in the hill. It was and still remains one of the Armenian ancient and the most cherished sacred places – the sanctuary of 13-year tortures of Saint Grigor the Illuminator. Inside the wall, in the centre there is St. Astvatsatsin Church, which was built at the end of the VII century. Khor Virap monastery was the centre of written language as well.

St. Jacob Church, Keghi castle (XI cent.) as well as the **house-museum of Paruyr Sevak** (v. Zangakatun) are situated in the territory of the marz.

The public nature reserve of Khosrov (“The Forest of Khosrov” was called after the king Khosrov B. Kotak) is situated in the central part of South Armenia. It covers 27 ha of territory and is at a height of 1600-2300 m. above sea level.

RA marz of Ararat is one of the economically developed marzes of the republic. Economy is based on agriculture. It is mainly specialized in wine-growing, fruit-growing and vegetable-growing.

The share of industry of the marz in 2002 in total volume of industrial production of the republic comprised 9.2%, in the volume of gross agricultural produce -12.9%, in retail turnover - 0.8% and in total volume of services rendered to population -2.8%.

The leading trends of industry are manufacture of food products including beverages and manufacture of other non- metallic mineral products.

Manufacturing is the main and general trend of multibranch industry of the marz, of which the following three branches are more developed:

- a) manufacture of food products and beverage (processing and canning of fruit and vegetable, manufacture of distilled alcoholic beverages),
- b) manufacture of tobacco products (tobacco fermentation),
- c) manufacture of other non- metallic mineral products (manufacture of cement, lime carbonate, asbestos cement products, cutting and processing of stone).

106 industrial, 20 construction, 5 agriculture, 4 fishing and fish farming, 11 transport units, 194 units rendering services and 625 retail trade units functioned in the marz in 2002, of which 377 shops, 219 kiosks, 21 public catering units, 4 markets of agricultural produce and 4 markets of consumer goods.

112 schools of general education, 22 music and art schools and 8 sports schools, 59 pre-school establishments, 3 state and 2 non-state secondary specialized education establishments, 1 non-state higher education and 1 scientific establishments, 2 museums, 97 libraries, 1 hotel, 59 out-patient polyclinics, 8 hospitals, cultural and educational centres and etc. functioned in the marz in 2002.

Artashat region

Arable land	11250 ha
Urban communities	1
Rural communities	38
Rural settlements	39
Population as of January 1, 2003	102.7 ths. persons
<i>including</i>	
urban	25.1 ths. persons
rural	77.6 ths. persons

42 industrial, 7 construction, 2 agriculture, 2 fishing and fish farming, 4 transport organizations, 87 organizations rendering services and 225 retail trade organizations functioned in the region in 2002, of which 102 were shops, 113 kiosks, 6 public catering units, 3 markets of consumer goods and 1 market of agricultural produce.

41 schools of general education, 11 music and art schools, 3 sports schools, 26 pre-school establishments, 1 non-state secondary specialized education establishment and 1 non-state higher education establishment, 43 libraries, 22 out-patient polyclinics, 3 hospitals and 1 hotel functioned in 2002.

Artashat town (25.1 ths. inhabitants) is the centre of the marz. The town is situated in 29 km distance from Yerevan (in 10 km distance to the North-West from historical Armenian town-Artashat); it occupies the area of 800 ha.

Manufacturing is the main trend of industry of the town; in which manufacture of food products and beverages (processing and canning of fruit and vegetable, manufacture of distilled alcoholic beverages and flour) as well as manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products (manufacture of household-domestic articles from porcelain-faience, manufacture of clothing materials from natural stones) are particularly separated.

Agriculture is of great importance in the economic life of the town as well, in which cultivation is the main trend.

20 industrial, 2 construction, 2 transport organizations, 58 organizations rendering services and 185 retail trade organizations functioned in the town in 2002, of which 89 shops, 5 public catering units, 1 market of consumer goods and 3 market of agricultural produce.

6 schools of general education, 3 music and art schools, 9 pre-school establishments, 1 non-state secondary specialized education establishment and 1 higher education establishment also

functioned in the town in 2002. Municipal state theatre of Artashat after Amo Kharazyan has been functioned constantly.

Ararat region

Arable land	15500 ha
Urban communities	2
Rural communities	29
Rural settlements	29
Population as of January 1, 2003	92.4 ths. persons
including	
urban	33.6 ths. persons
rural	58.8 ths. persons

35 industrial, 7 construction, 3 transport, 44 units rendering services and 139 retail trade units functioned in the region in 2002, of which 76 shops, 53 kiosks, 6 public catering units, 1 market of consumer goods and 3 markets of agricultural produce.

38 schools of general education, 5 music and art schools and 4 sports schools, 16 pre-school establishments, 2 state and 1 non state secondary specialized education establishments, 2 museums, 30 libraries, 17 out- patient polyclinics and 3 hospitals also functioned in 2002.

Ararat town (20.5 ths. inhabitants) is situated in 48 km distance from Yerevan and it was founded in 1936. It is known as an industrial centre. Manufacturing is the main trend of industry of the town, in which manufacture of other non- metallic mineral products (manufacture of cement, lime carbonate, asbestos cement products) comprises its prevailing part.

22 industrial, 5 construction, 2 transport, 10 units rendering services and 67 retail trade units functioned in the town in 2002, of which 35 shops, 2 public catering units, 1 market of consumer goods and 2 markets of agricultural produce. 5 schools of general education and 1 music school, 5 pre-school establishments and 2 secondary specialized education establishments, 1 out- patient polyclinics and 1 hotel functioned in the town as well.

Vedi town (13.0 ths. inhabitants) is situated on the right bank of Vedi River, in 35 km distance from Yerevan. Manufacturing is the main trend of industry of the town, in which manufacture of clothing materials from natural stones, manufacture of electrical equipment and control apparatus, manufacture of builders' ware of plastic are of great importance.

Agriculture is of great importance in the economic life of the town as well, in which cultivation is the main trend.

9 industrial, 2 construction, 1 transport, 30 services rendering organizations and 40 retail trade organizations functioned in the town in 2002, of which 25 shops, and 2 public catering units.

3 schools of general education and 1 music school, 3 pre-school establishments and 1 secondary specialized education establishment also functioned in the town in 2002.

Masis region

Arable land	6550 ha
Urban communities	1
Rural communities	26
Rural settlements	26
Population as of January 1, 2003	77.0 ths. persons
including	
urban	21.4 ths. persons
rural	55.6 ths. persons

29 industrial, 6 construction, 3 agriculture, 2 fishing and fish farming, 4 transport units, 63 units rendering services and 261 retail trade units functioned in the region in 2002, of which 199 shops, 53 kiosks, 9 public catering units. 33 schools of general education, 6 music and art schools and 1 sports school, 17 pre-school establishments and 1 state secondary specialized education establishment, 1 scientific establishment, 24 libraries, 20 out-patient polyclinics and 2 hotels functioned as well.

Masis town (21.4 ths. inhabitants) is situated on the left bank of Hrazdan River, in 14 km distance from Yerevan. It is a big railway and goods transporting station, which is of interregional importance and supplies Yerevan.

Manufacturing is the main trend of industry of the town, in which manufacture of wood and wood products (manufacture of wood sawing and planing, manufacture of unassembled wooden flooring including manufacture of parquet) manufacture of chemicals and chemical products (manufacture of paints, varnishes and similar coatings, printing ink and mastics) and manufacture of tobacco products (tobacco fermentation) comprise prevailing part.

18 industrial, 3 construction, 59 units rendering services and 145 retail trade units functioned in the town in 2002, of which 81 shops and 8 public schools of general education and 1 music school, 6 pre-school establishments, 1 state secondary specialized education establishment, 1 orphanage.



Khor Virap

URBAN COMMUNITIES

Community name	Settlement name
Artashat	t. Artashat
Ararat	t. Ararat
Masis	t. Masis
Vedi	t. Vedi

RURAL COMMUNITIES

Community name	Settlement name
Abovyan	Abovyan
Azatashen	Azatashen
Azatavan	Azatavan
Aygavan	Aygavan
Aygezard	Aygezard
Aygepat	Aygepat
Aygestan	Aygestan
Ayntap	Ayntap
Avshar	Avshar
Aralez	Aralez
Ararat	Ararat
Araksavan	Araksavan
Arbat	Arbat
Argavand	Argavand
Armash	Armash
Arevabuyr	Arevabuyr
Arevshat	Arevshat
Baghramyan	Baghramyan
Bardsrashen	Bardsrashen

Community name	Settlement name
	Kaqavaberd
Berdik	Berdik
Berkanush	Berkanush
Byuravan	Byuravan
Burastan	Burastan
Geghanist	Geghanist
Getazat	Getazat
Getapnya	Getapnya
Goravan	Goravan
Dalar	Dalar
Dashtavan	Dashtavan
Dashtaqaq	Dashtaqaq
Darakert	Darakert
Darbnik	Darbnik
Deghdsut	Deghdsut
Dimitrov	Dimitrov
Ditak	Ditak
Dvin	Dvin
Yeghegnavan	Yeghegnavan
Yeraskh	Yeraskh
Zangakatun	Zangakatun
Zorak	Zorak
Lanjazat	Lanjazat
Lanjanist	Lanjanist
Lanjar	Lanjar
Lusashogh	Lusashogh
Lusarat	Lusarat
Khachpar	Khachpar
Kanachut	Kanachut
Hayanist	Hayanist
Hnaberd	Hnaberd
Hovtashat	Hovtashat
Hovtashen	Hovtashen
Ghukasavan	Ghukasavan
Masis	Masis
Marmarashen	Marmarashen
Mkhchyan	Mkhchyan
Mrganush	Mrganush
Mrgavan	Mrgavan
Mrgavet	Mrgavet
Narek	Narek
Nizami	Nizami
Nshavan	Nshavan
Noyakert	Noyakert
Norabats	Norabats
Noramarg	Noramarg
Norashen	Norashen
Nor Kharberd	Nor Kharberd
Nor Kyanq	Nor Kyanq
Nor Kyurin	Nor Kyurin
Nor Ughi	Nor Ughi
Shahumyan	Shahumyan

Community name	Settlement name
Shaghap	Shaghap
Vosketap	Vosketap
Vostan	Vostan
Paruyr Sevak	Paruyr Sevak
Jrahovit	Jrahovit
Jrashen	Jrashen
Ranchpar	Ranchpar
Sayat-Nova	Sayat-Nova
Sis	Sis
Sisavan	Sisavan
Sipanik	Sipanik
Surenavan	Surenavan
Vanashen	Vanashen
Vardashat	Vardashat
Vardashen	Vardashen
Vedu ginu gortsaran	Vedu ginu gortsaranin kits
Verin Artashat	Verin Artashat
Verin Dvin	Verin Dvin
Taperakan	Taperakan
Urtsalanj	Urtsalanj
Urtsadsor	Urtsadsor
Pokr Vedi	Pokr Vedi
Qaghtsrashen	Qaghtsrashen