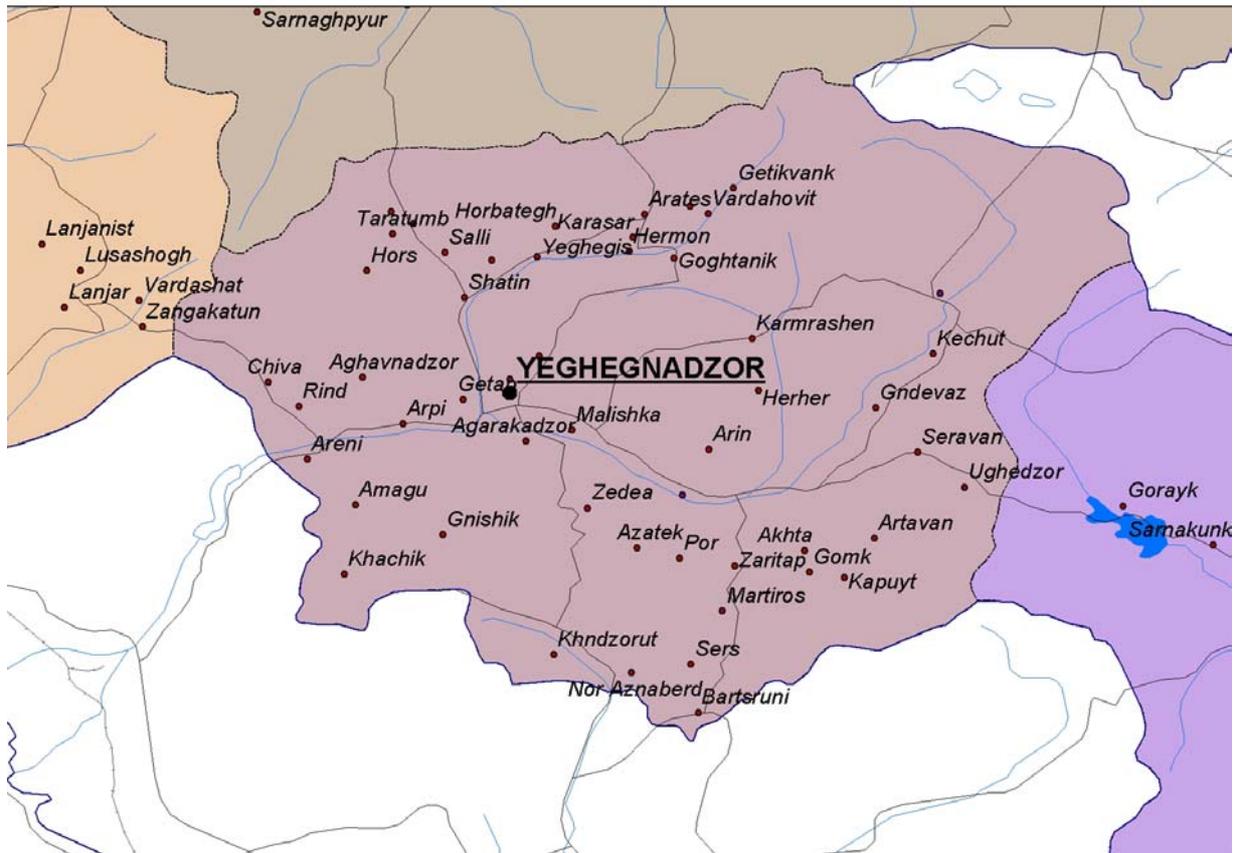


# RA VAYOTS DZOR MARZ



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*Marz centre - Eghegnadzor town*



Territory	2308 square km
Agricultural land	75939 ha
<i>including</i> arable land	19857 ha
Urban communities	3
Rural communities	41
Rural settlements	52
Population as of January 1, 2003	55.9 ths. persons
<i>including</i>	
urban	19.5 ths. persons
Rural	36.4 ths. persons

**RA Vayots dzor marz** occupies 7.8% of the territory of the Republic of Armenia. The population of the marz comprised 1.7% of the republican total population in 2002. About 65.1% of marz population inhabit in rural settlements.

RA Vayots dzor includes Vayk and Eghegnadzor regions with 3 towns and 52 rural settlements.

The borders of RA Vayots dzor marz from administrative and territorial view point were changed a little from its borders of Vayots dzor province of historical Syunik state. The borders stability is explained by peculiarity of territory surface. Vayots dzor as a lap-valley is surrounded with high mountains, water-separately mountain ranges, that being original natural banks between its and neighbouring territories, turn that into a geographical single whole.

Vayots dzor was a human settlement since the earliest Stone Age times and a life had been continued without interruptions.

Historical Vayots dzor is one of the biggest states of Syunik state that for certain years was its administrative centre. Vayots dzor played a big role in the development of the Middle Ages Armenian culture. Gladzor (XIII century) famous university functioned there, where talented scientists, writers and miniature painters worked and created, the numerous manuscripts written and illustrated by them give admiration today as well. Wonderful memorials of material culture, Noravank, Gndevank, Shati, Tanahati, Hermoni, Eghegisi monasteries, Sulema (Selimi)

caravanserai and numerous other architectural wonderful monuments, that are the places of tourists regular visits, are situated in Vayots dzor.

Vayots dzor is situated in Arpa river basin (2630 km<sup>2</sup>), from the east is surrounded with the north part of Zangezur mountain range, borders with Syunik's Tsghuk and Artsakh's Tsar provinces, from the south – Syunik's Chahuk province. From the west Vayots dzor mountain ranges, going gradually down, reach to Sharur valley (Nakhijevan Autonomous Republic). From the north it is surrounded with Vardenis mountain range, becoming frontier with Gegharkunik and Sotk provinces.

Voyots dzor surface is extraordinary variegated. Volcanic forces, earthquakes, waters of Arpa river and its tributaries raised numerous mountain ranges stretching by different directions with big and small tops, mysterious canyons, mountain passes, plateaus, concavities, fields, meadows and natural varied buildings, the most bright example of which is Jermuk wonderful waterfall (71 m).

The Vayots dzor climate on the whole is continental with cold or moderate cold winters and hot or warm summers. The highest possible air temperature reaches 40<sup>0</sup>C in southern districts, and the exceptional minimum- 35<sup>0</sup> C. Precipitations comprise 300-700 mm.

Vayots dzor marz has varied fauna and flora. Natural forests comprise 4.6% of territory.

The motor highway connecting Armenia with Iran goes through marz that plays an essential role in the perspective development of marz economy. The construction of Eghegnadzor-Martuni motor-car road of vital importance has been finished. The motor-car road rounding Malishka village is constructed.

The share of *RA Vayots dzor marz* industry in total volume of republican industrial production comprised 0.8% in 2002, in volume of gross agriculture produce – 4.4%, in retail turnover – 0.2% and in total volume of rendered services – 0.6%.

In total volume of marz economy the prevailing is agriculture. Peasant farms mainly deal with cattle-breeding. The vine-growing, fruit-growing and vegetable-growing have certain share in the volume of gross agriculture produce.

The production of non-alcoholic beverages (in particular, mineral waters) is mainly developed in the industry field, the share of which in total volume of industrial production comprised 20.9% in 2002, and the grape wine- 9.9%. It is necessary to mention that factories dealing with wine production are mainly distributed in rural places, in Arpi, Areni, Getap, Aghavnadzor and Malishka villages.

39 industrial, 7 agriculture, hunting and forestry, 2 fishing and fish farming, 6 construction, 6 transport, 47 rendering services, 166 retail trade units, of which 68 stores, 84 kiosks, 12 public catering units, 1 agriculture produce and 1 consumer goods markets functioned in the marz in 2002. 51 schools of general education, 3 music and art, 4 sport schools, 1 college, 19 pre-school establishments, 1 state and 1 non-state secondary specialized education establishments, 1 museum, 51 libraries, 1 hotel, 8 out-patient polyclinics and 3 hospitals functioned in the marz as well.

### ***Vayk region***

Arable land	10424 ha
Urban communities	2
Rural communities	16
Rural settlements	21
Population as of January 1, 2003	20.1 ths. persons
<i>including</i>	
urban	11.3 ths. persons
rural	8.8 ths. persons

21 industrial, 1 agriculture, hunting and forestry, 2 fishing and fish farming, 2 construction, 3 transport, 22 rendering services, 106 retail trade units, of which 35 stores, 66 kiosks, 5 public catering units functioned in the region in 2002. 21 schools of general education, 2 art and music, 2 sport schools, 5 pre-school establishments, 19 libraries, 3 out-patient polyclinics and 2 hospitals functioned in the region in 2002 as well.

***Vayk town*** (former Azizbekov) is situated in 135 km distance from Yerevan. Population number is 6.0 ths. persons. The wonderful building of newly built “Surb Trdat” church decorates the town’s entrance.

10 industrial, 2 construction, 2 transport, 13 rendering services, 48 retail trade units, of which 4 public catering functioned in the town in 2002. Moreover, 3 industrial organizations dealt with “Jermuk” mineral water bottle filling, 1-carpet making, 1-jewelry production and 1-building materials production. 2 schools of general education and 1 music school, 2 pre-school establishments, etc. functioned in the town as well.

***Jermuk town*** (6.4 ths. persons) is situated on the lava plateau with the height 2070 m (distance from Yerevan is 170 km). Jermuk is widely recognised as a sanatorium town. The recognised sanatoriums are “Narek”, “Aghajanyani anvan aroghjaran”, “Nairi-BAM”, “Zartonk”, “Ararat” and “Eraz”.

The town name is related to mineral warm sources, jermuks. The production of non alcoholic beverages, “Jermuk” mineral water is expanded in the town.

11 industrial, 1 transport, 9 rendering services, 40 retail trade units, of which 1 public catering unit functioned in the town in 2002.

2 schools of general education, 1 music and art school, 2 pre-school establishments, 1 sport complex, 1 out-patient polyclinic and 1 hospital functioned in the town in 2002 as well.

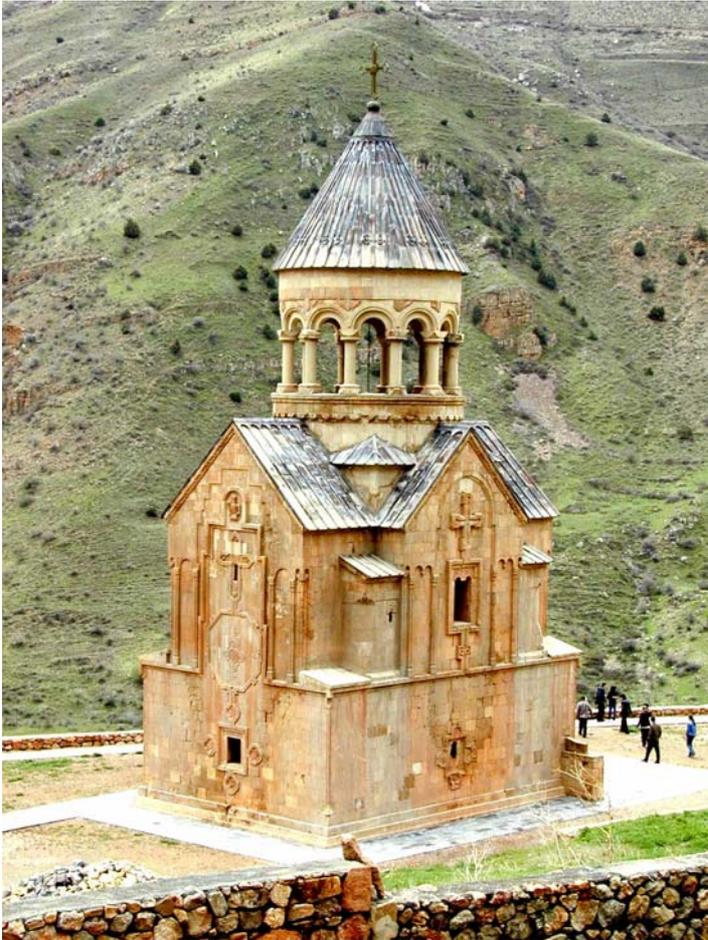
### ***Eghegnadzor region***

Arable land	9433 ha
Urban communities	1
Rural communities	25
Rural settlements	31
Population as of January 1, 2003	35.8 ths. persons
<i>including</i>	
urban	8.2 ths. persons
rural	27.6 ths. persons

18 industrial, 6 agriculture, hunting and forestry, 4 construction, 3 transport, 25 rendering services, 60 retail trade units, of which 33 stores, 18 kiosks, 7 public catering units and 1 agriculture products and 1 consumer goods markets functioned in the region in 2002. 30 schools of general education, 1 college, 1 music and art, 2 sport schools, 14 pre-school establishments, 1 state and 1 non-state secondary specialized education establishments, 1 museum, 32 libraries and 1 hotel, 5 out-patient polyclinics and 1 hospital functioned in the region as well.

***Eghegnadzor town*** (8.2 ths. inhabitants) is considered the one of Syunik ancient settlements and is situated in 119 km distance from Yerevan. Kiklopyan castle rests have been preserved in the environs of the town.

8 industrial, 3 construction, 3 transport, 25 rendering services, 54 retail trade units, of which 6 public catering units functioned in the town in 2002. Moreover, among industrial organizations 2 dealt with bread production, 1 – wine and 1 – relay. The production of cans, textile, jewellery has been started again in the town. 1 college, 3 schools of general education, 1 music and art, 1 sport schools, 4 pre-school establishments, 1 state and 1 non-state secondary specialized education establishments, geological museum, etc. functioned in the town in 2002 as well.



Noravank



Khachkar in Noravank

## URBAN COMMUNITIES

Community name	Settlement name
Eghegnadzor	Eghegnadzor town
Jermuk	Jermuk town
	Kechut town
Vayk	Vayk town

## RURAL COMMUNITIES

Community name	Settlement name
Agarakadzor	Agarakadzor
Azatek	Azatek
Aghavnadzor	Aghavnadzor
Aghnjadzor	Aghnjadzor
Areni	Areni
Arin	Arin
Artabyunk	Artabyunk
Artavan	Artavan
Arpi	Arpi
Bardzruni	Bardzruni
Getap	Getap
Gladzor	Gladzor
Gndevaz	Gndevaz
Gnishik	Gnishik
	Mozrov
Goghtanik	Goghtanik
Gomk	Gomk
	Akhta
	Kapuyt
Elpin	Elpin
Eghegis	Eghegnis
Zaritap	Zaritap
	Horadis
Zedea	Zedea
Taratumb	Taratumb
Khachik	Khachik
Khndzorut	Khndzorut
Karmrashen	Karmrashen
Herher	Herher
Hermon	Hermon
	Arates
Horbategh	Horbategh
Hors	Hors
Malishka	Malishka
Martiros	Martiros
Nor Aznaberd	Nor Aznaberd
Shatin	Shatin
Chiva	Chiva
Rind	Rind
Salli	Salli
Saravan	Saravan
	Ughedzor
Sers	Sers
Vardahovit	Vardahovit
	Sevajayr
Vernashen	Vernashen
Chor	Chor
Qaraglukh	Qaraglukh