

Original article

## Social-Structural Stratification in the Regional Labor Market in the Context of Occupational Prestige among Youth

**Irina A. Gareeva<sup>1</sup>, Petr E. Perepechai<sup>2</sup>**<sup>1,2</sup> The Pacific State University, Khabarovsk, Russia<sup>1</sup> gar\_ia@mail.ru, <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3764-7073><sup>2</sup> mr.perepechai@mail.ru, <https://orcid.org/0009-0001-8276-4615>

**Abstract.** *The article examines the socio-professional stratification of the regional labor market using the case of the Khabarovsk Territory. It analyzes objective statistical indicators determining wage levels, professional demand, educational requirements for employees, and workforce availability within various economic sectors. The study aims at identifying and analyzing factors influencing the formation of the socio-professional structure of the regional labor market and developing recommendations aimed at mitigating identified imbalances. Based on the findings of a sociological study, the authors analyze how the phenomenon of occupational prestige affects youth life strategies, social mobility, and migration intentions, thus shaping socio-professional differentiation in the region. The article considers social and economic aspects that influence young people's occupational choices, as well as explores the causes behind existing workforce shortages in key sectors of the economy and social services in the Khabarovsk Territory. The paper concludes with practical recommendations for improving vocational guidance systems and enhancing social regulation of occupational choice among youth, taking into account socio-professional differentiation in the regional labor market.*

**Keywords:** socio-professional stratification, labor market, Khabarovsk Territory, wages, educational characteristics, workforce shortage, educational structure, monitoring

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