The Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is one of the largest constituents of the Russian Federation, a stably and dynamically developing region. It is a part of the Ural Federal District. The administrative center is Salekhard, the city located on the Arctic Circle.
Geographical situation, climate and nature

The Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is located in the Arctic zone of the West Siberian Plain, in the center of Russia’s Far North. It has an area of 769250 square kilometers, or several times as much as an average West-European country.

The northernmost point of the continental part of the Yamal is situated at 73°30’N and 800 kilometers above the Arctic Circle, which is completely consonant with its Nenets name of the Peninsula – the End of the Earth. More than half of the Yamal-Nenets autonomous district lies north of the Arctic Circle. The northern boundary of the district is washed by the Kara Sea and is a part of the Russian Federation state border (about 900 kilometers). In the west, the Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is contiguous to the Nenets autonomous district and the Republic of Komi along the Urals Ridge; in the south – to the Khanty-Mansi autonomous district and in the east – to Krasnoyarsk Region. The distance between the district capital and Moscow is 2436 km.

The area of the district is located in three climatic zones: Arctic, Sub-Arctic and the zone of the northern (taiga) belt of the West Siberian Plain.

The climate is continental, determined by the presence of permafrost, proximity of the Arctic Ocean and abundance of bays, rivers, lakes and swamps.

The district is featured with long (up to 8 months) winter and short (50 days in average) summer, strong winds and low snow depth.
An average annual temperature of air is -10°C.
The minimum winter temperature is down to -57°C, in summer July temperature can increase up to +30°C throughout the area, however, the soil thaws out only for 40–50 centimeters.
There are frequent magnetic storms, which are accompanied by the Northern Lights.

The district is washed by the Kara Sea and includes the Yamal, Taz and Gyda Peninsulas and Beliy, Oleniy and Shokalsky Islands, etc. The main rivers are the Ob, Taz, Pur, Nadym, Yurybey, Messoyakha, etc. There are many lakes in the district; the largest are Yorroto, Neito, and Yambuto.

Tundra and forest tundra occupy three-fifths of the district; sphagnum bogs are widespread. Forests of Siberian larch, spruce, and nut pine occur in the south, primarily along river banks.

Animals found in tundra include the reindeer, blue hare, arctic fox, wolf, and ermine, in the South of the district the sable, Siberian weasel, squirrel, and Siberian chipmunk are encountered. Among the birds of the district are snow grouses and ptarmigans, the capercaillie, and the hazel hen. The rivers and lakes are rich in
sturgeons and salmons (sturgeon, nelma, muksun, whitefish, etc.). White whale and ringed seal are found in the Ob and Taz Bays.

**Administrative Arrangement**

The Yamal-Nenets autonomous district consists of 58 municipalities, six of which are urban districts (Salekhard, Gubkinsky, Labytnangi, Muravlenko, Novy Urengoy, Noyabrsk), seven municipal districts (Krasnoselkup, Nadym, Priuralie, Pur, Taz, Shuryshkar and Yamal districts), urban areas (the towns of Nadym, Tarko-Sale, the settlements of Zapolyarny, Pangody, Kharp, Urengoy, Tazovsky) and 38 rural villages.

The largest regional towns are Novy Urengoy, Noyabrsk and Nadym.

The district capital is Salekhard (Obdorsk until 1933) founded by Russian Cossacks in 1595. Salekhard population is about 45 thousand people.

*Dmitry Kobylkin* is the Chief Executive of the region, Governor of the Yamal-Nenets autonomous district.

The Legislative Assembly of the district comprises 22 members. *Sergey Kharyuchi* is the Chairman of the Regional Parliament.

Demography and National Policy

As of January 1, 2012, the district population amounted to 536 558 people. The population density is 0,7 people per one square kilometer, urban population relative to total population – 85,0%.
According to Yamalstat, in 2011, the birth rate in the district was 15.8 per 1,000 people to be higher than Russia’s average by 26.4%; all cause mortality – 5.4 per 1,000 people (2.7 times lower than Russia’s average), natural population increase – 10.2 per 1,000 people.

The demographic situation is featured by a sustainable natural population growth, 4–5 thousand people a year in average. The district is inside the top ten in the Russian Federation in birth rate. It may be explained by a favourable forecast of economic development and active social policy of the district’s governmental authorities.

Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is one of the most multi-ethnic regions of the Russian Federation. Representatives of 112 ethnic groups and nationalities live in the district. Over 40 thousand people living there are representatives of small indigenous peoples of the North. More than 15 thousand of them live a nomadic way of life.

The region is featured with good neighborhood between different confessions that resulted from the interaction of cultures of people living there.

According to the 2010 census, the ethnic composition of the district is as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russians</td>
<td>312 019 (61,7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukrainians</td>
<td>48 985 (9,7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nenets</td>
<td>29 772 (5,9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tatars</td>
<td>28 509 (5,6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khanty</td>
<td>9489 (1,9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijanians</td>
<td>9291 (1,8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bashkirs</td>
<td>8297 (1,7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byelorussians</td>
<td>6480 (1,3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Komis</td>
<td>5141 (1,0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldavians</td>
<td>4712 (0,9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumyks</td>
<td>4466 (0,9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nogais</td>
<td>3479 (0,7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuvashes</td>
<td>3471 (0,7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selkups</td>
<td>1988 (0,4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other nationalities</td>
<td>29 288 (5,8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Those who did not indicate their nationality</td>
<td>17 517</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Economy**

Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is one of the five regions of Russia with the highest index of the investment rating. The region’s rating *BBB/Stable* was again confirmed in May 2012 by the International Rating Agency Standard & Poor’s.

For last ten years the region has been taking *the second place in Russia by the volume of investments* in fixed capital per capita, and the fourth place by foreign direct investments, that is why it has stable investment opportunities.

The volume of the produced gross regional product in the autonomous district in 2011 is estimated to be 845,4 billion rubles. The GRP per capita in 2011 is more than 1,5 million rubles. In 2012 the volume of the GRP production is estimated to be 913,5 billion rubles. The forecast of the GRP volume in 2015 is 1238,8 billion rubles.

Yamal is one of *the first among the constituents of the Russian Federation by the volume of the gross regional product (GRP)* per capita. The annual GRP growth in the Autonomous District amounts to more than 3 billion USD.
The main economic activities of the district are industry, construction, trade, transport and communications, agriculture and forestry. According to the Department of the Federal Tax Service for the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous district, as of June 1, 2012, the total number of production plants, which have passed the state registration (re-registration) is 1003 including: mining industry – 206, processing industry – 630, plants generating and distributing electricity, gas and water – 157.

In 2011, the district’s production plants shipped own-produced goods, performed work and services using their own resources, at current prices, amounting to 809,5 billion rubles (in the first half of 2012 – 491,5 billion rubles), including mining operations – 670,6 billion rubles, manufacturing – 105,5 billion rubles, generation and distribution of electricity, gas and water – 33,4 billion rubles.

The index of industrial production in January-June 2012 amounted to 97,8% to the relevant period of 2011. The producer price index in June 2012 is 113,7% as compared to June 2011.

The Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is among five leaders in volumes of investment into the fixed capital with the share of around 5,4% (in the first quarter of 2012) in the total volume of the Russian Federation investments; this was achieved due to the favourable investment climate created in the district.

According to official figures of January-June, 2012, the district is the third in Russia in the volume of tax contributions to the consolidated Federal budget.

Nowadays 12 companies implement 15 investment projects on the territory of the autonomous district with the total cost of investments more 580 billion rubles.
The list of top-priority investment projects in the Ural federal district, being implemented on the territory of Yamal-Nenets autonomous district:

- “The development of liquefied natural gas (LNG) production on the territory of the Yamal peninsula”;

- “The construction of the pipeline system “Zapolyarye – OPS (Oil pump station) “Pur-Pe” – OPS “Samotlor”

- “The construction of the automobile road “Surgut – Salekhard, a sector Nadym-Salekhard”

Yamal means long-term perspectives of social and economic development of the region, directed to the welfare of the territory and all Russia. Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is reliable base of Russian economy: a quarter of currency receipts of Russia is earned by Yamal companies.

Large investment projects were worked out and are being implemented on the territory of the autonomous district:

- Complex exploration of deposits of Yamal-Nenets autonomous district and the North of Krasnoyarsk region;

- Development of deposits of the Yamal peninsula and adjacent offshore areas;

- Development of unique gas condensate and oil fields of Achimov depth of Urengoy region;

- Infrastructure development of deposits of Bolshekhett basin by LLC “Lukoil-Western Europe”;

- Infrastructure development of the Southern-Russian oil and gas deposit
Fuel and Energy Sector

Being the main Russia’s gas bridgehead, Yamal-Nenets autonomous district has all needed to remain the center of national and world gas production in the XXI century.

Yamal accounts for 85% of Russia’s and 20% of the world’s natural gas production. During the entire time of mining development, over 15 trillion cubic meters of natural gas (about 12% the total district resources) have been extracted.

235 hydrocarbon deposits have been discovered in the district, 63 of which are being commercially operated, 22 have been prepared for operation, and geological exploration is being carried out at 150 deposits. Initial total natural gas resources in the region are estimated at 125 trillion cubic meters; initial total oil and condensate resources are 23 billion tons.

Currently, 32 enterprises develop 85 hydrocarbon deposits in the district. Hydrocarbon production in the first half of 2012 amounted to: natural gas – 279,3 billion cubic meters; oil – 11,3 million tons, and condensate – 6,9 million tons. In 2011, proved reserves growth of C1 category was: oil – 49,8 million tons; condensate – 23,9 million tons, and gas – 286,5 billion cubic meters. Since 2007 up to 2011 twenty new hydrocarbon deposits have been discovered in Yamal.
Yamal plays a strategic role in Russia’s gas production being an outpost for the future movement onto the Arctic shelf. The development of Yamal resources is the biggest energy project in the newest Russian history. Unique location of Yamal gives an opportunity to develop a logistic model of year-round liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply to markets in Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific Region via the Northern Sea Route.

A priority of the Foundations of the Russian Federation Policy in the Arctic until 2020 is to improve state management of the social and economic development of the Arctic by expanding fundamental and applied scientific research in the Arctic. A considerable contribution to the development of scientific and innovation activity was made by the Council for State Scientific, Technical and Innovation Policy that defined the District’s priorities in research: history, archaeology and ethnology, geopolitics and economics, ecology and biomedicine, study of the resource potential of the district.

In last decades, Yamal-Nenets autonomous district has become one of the leading Russia’s regions. It has been transformed from a raw-material province to strategic entities of the Russian Federation and gained recognition both in Russia and far beyond.

In the longer term, the district will be the basis of Russia’s Energy Strategy. Therefore, currently, there is active development and implementation of industrial investment projects, significant in terms of their scale, investments and costs in the district:

- Program for the comprehensive development of deposits in the Yamal Peninsula and in the adjacent offshore areas developed by Gazprom in collaboration with the Yamal-Nenets autonomous district Administration by order of President of the Russian Federation and Government.

Eleven gas and 15 oil, gas and condensate fields with about 16 trillion cubic meters of explored and preliminary estimated gas reserves (ABC1+C2) and nearly 22 trillion cubic meters of in-place and forecast gas reserves (C3–D3) have been discovered in the Yamal Peninsula. Reserves of condensate (ABC1) are estimated at 230,7 million tons and those of oil – 291,8 million tons.

Being the most explored and ready for development, Yamal is located close to the existing gas transportation infrastructure, has considerable reserves and favourable production opportunities. It is impossible anywhere in Russia to create such an oil and gas production complex within two decades only. This is the reason why the development of Yamal will play a decisive role in Russia’s gas industry development in the XXI century.
The model of the liquefied gas production plant (project «Yamal LNG»)

**Growth Dynamics of Gas Production in the Yamal Peninsula (forecast)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2030</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gas Production, billion cubic meters</td>
<td>75–115</td>
<td>135–175</td>
<td>200–250</td>
<td>310–360</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The Yamal LNG – establishment of the largest Russia’s center for liquefying gas near the port of Sabetta based on South Tambey gas field with further involvement of Tambey group. South Tambey gas field holds 1.3 trillion cubic meters of gas. Forecast production resources are 25 billion cubic meters for 20 years. South Tambey gas field allows producing 15–16 million tons of LNG during 30 years. The LNG plant phase I is expected to be operational in 2016. To implement the project, about 20 ice-class tankers with a deadweight of 140–160 thousand cubic meters will be needed.
- Extraction of the resources of the Polar Ural – total reserves and forecast resources of are valued at more than 1,5 billion USD and are sufficient to provide the entire Russian industry with chrome, magnesium, and phosphates.
- Construction of the Yamal Gas Chemical Center to process natural gas into methanol with a capacity of 500 thousand tons a year.

- Construction of the Novy Urengoy Gas Chemical Complex to produce ethane gas with a capacity of more than 800 thousand tons of raw materials, 340 thousand of tons of ethylene and 300 thousand tons of polyethylene a year.

- Construction of a methanol plant in Novy Urengoy with a capacity of 10 thousand tons of methanol a day using low pressure technology.

- Construction of a power station in the area of the electric substation “Tarko-Sale” with the capacity 600-660 megawatt. An indicative cost of the project is 50-60 billion rubles. It is supposed that about 3000 experts will be involved in the construction and 700 experts will work during the operational period.

**Transport Infrastructure**

The density of surfaced roads in the autonomous district is 1,4 kilometers per 1000 square kilometers. In the last three years, road construction rate has been increased. The construction of Nadym-Salekhard road is one of the largest transport projects. The road lies in the same corridor as the Northern Latitudinal Way Obskaya-Salekhard-Nadym-Pangody-Novy Urengoy-Korotchaevo. The project has been included in the list of priority investment projects of the Ural federal district. It is intended to remove infrastructure constraints for the autonomous district, create a favourable investment climate and facilitate the comprehensive development of the region’s resource potential.

In those areas of the autonomous district, where there are no all-season roads, the main traffic load falls on the aviation. Within the framework of the modernization the regional airline company “Yamal” carries out a phased replacement of old aircrafts.
Over the past two years, 16 aircrafts have been purchased, mainly Boeing-737 and CRJ-200. The District’s Program Development of Airports in the Yamal-Nenets autonomous district until 2020 is being implemented. The reconstruction and modernization in Krasnoselkup Airport has started. Next in turn is the reconstruction of airports in Nadym, Novy Urengoy and Salekhard.

The length of navigable waterways in the district is 1629 kilometers. Currently, they connect 52 populated localities with population up to 120 thousand people.

**Agrobusiness**

*Reindeer herding and fishing* are traditional for the agrobusiness of the region. As of January 1, 2012, the Yamal’s domestic reindeer population amounted to 678,2 thousand heads, 360,3 thousand of which are in farm households. It is the largest domestic reindeer herd in the world.

Reindeer meat is sold not only in the RF but also is exported to the Western Europe. *Yamal is the only region in Russia that has been certified under the EU standards for production of reindeer meat.* In 2011, the volume of export amounted to 456 tons including Germany – 156, and Finland – 300 tons.

*Reindeer skin processing and currying* has a significant development potential. Yamal’s products have already attracted partners from Sweden, Germany and Greece to be used in leather and fur production.

Reindeer blood processing also has a considerable potential for development. A unique technology makes it possible to extract from reindeer blood active ingredients, including *Pantogematogen, Dried Blood for Velvet Antler Baths and Lyophilically*
Dried Blood, demand for which outgrows supply. Due to its uniqueness, blood products occupy a stable niche in the market.

Production/ goods of agro business of YaNAO

The fisheries sector is of special importance for the economy of the district. The total fishing area exceeds 25 thousand square kilometers. The feature of the Ob Basin is the unique in number and diversity whitefish stock amounted to two thirds of the world’s population.

In 2011, the Governor grants have been awarded to agricultural and fishing organizations to promote the best performance of agrobusiness organizations of the autonomous district.

International and circumpolar cooperation

Yamal became the unique place for international and circumpolar cooperation. It is proved by the fact that for last years the image of the district has grown considerably on the international arena, events held in the district are more ambitious, significant and effective, investors are more serious and the diplomatic corps is more interested.

The effective exchange of knowledge and progressive experience in the sphere of management and development of northern territories make a considerable contribution in sustainable social and economic development of Yamal.

Today Yamal is a competent and active participant of international organisations, initiator and co-organiser of many international projects and programs.
For last years Yamal-Nenets autonomous district has built tight and long-term relations with the largest organisations such as UN, Arctic Council and International Nobel Fraternity Fund and so on. Relations with these international institutes are essential, and taking into consideration mutual interest of countries they are in constant dynamics.

In terms of active Russian and geopolitics processes in the Arctic nowadays a system approach is very important to form Yamal-Nenets autonomous district as a strategic region of Russia in Arctic latitudes. That is why the Government of Yamal-Nenets autonomous district carry out a serious work.

In the March, 2012 a team “Yamal” took part in the XXII Arctic Winter Games in Canada. Yamal is the only region representing the Russian Federation. At the end of competitions the team of the autonomous district won 101 medals, among which 50 golden, 34 silver and 17 bronze medals, thus it took 5th place.

In June, 2012 there was the Jubilee X International conference on permafrost “Resources and Risks of Permafrost Areas in a Changing World” in Salekhard. This conference was held in USSR in 1973 and it was organized in the Russian Federation for the first time in 2012.

This event was one of the great events in the scientific world of the circumpolar region. The Conference gathered leading world scientists, creative youth and public figures, representatives of business and diplomatic corps, members of Russian academy of Science, more than 250 foreign scientists and representatives of different scientific
and public organisations from 31 countries. The total number of participants of the Conference was about 600 people.

After the Governor’s initiative to organise an ecologic expedition, Bely Island was sanitized in July, 2012. In the course of work the ecologic team cleaned a territory of 6000 square meters. They gathered 75 tons of scrap metal and other wastes (1121 barrels, non-ferrous metals, pipes, radiators and so on). 5 contour maps and 75 passports of objects were made. Found scrap metal was given to processing, and received means were transferred to the Charity Children Fund “YAMINE”. The other important mission made by volunteers during the expedition is the erection of an orthodox chapel on the island to memorize seamen perished in the Kara Sea during the Great Patriotic War.
In August, 2012 pupils of senior schools of educational establishments of Yamal-Nenets autonomous district took part in the International Arctic project-expedition to the Arctic Ice “Students on ice”.

During this project children got acquainted with unique fauna and flora of Arctic territories of Canada and Greenland, took part in practice lessons to study the Arctic along with students of Canada, Denmark, the USA, Monaco and India. The Russian Federation was presented only by Yamal students.

After this project’s finish all participants became graduators of “Students on Ice” and are on the list of great number of scientists, historians, actors, researches, museum workers and polar experts, executing its work in the circumpolar region.

Foreign Trade Turnover

Fuel and energy sector products (mineral fuels, oil and its distillation products) have the highest percentage in the export of the district. The main import direction is the development of industrial production through the implementation of advanced equipment and involvement of the advanced technologies.

*The Yamal companies cooperate* with partner companies and organizations from 38 countries, the main ones are the Netherlands, Poland, Germany and France. A characteristic feature of the autonomous district’s foreign trade is a positive trade balance.
During 9 months of 2012 year when executing foreign trade Yamal enterprizes supported business relations with partners from 21 countries, main ones were Poland (44,3%), Finland (15,8%), Ukraine (10,8%), China (7,1%), Hungary (5,0%), USA(4,8%), Romania (3,0%), Austria (2,5%).

Main trade partners in foreign trade turnover of the autonomous district

Foreign trade turnover of Yamal-Nenets autonomous district for 9 months 2012 comparing to the same period in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>9 months 2011r.</th>
<th>9 months 2012r.</th>
<th>9 months 2012r. to 9 months 2011r.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>IMPORT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistic value (million USD)</td>
<td>138,8</td>
<td>101,3</td>
<td>Decreased by 1,4 time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cargo turnover (thousand tons)</td>
<td>14,1</td>
<td>11,5</td>
<td>Decreased by 1,2 time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPORT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistic value (million USD)</td>
<td>204,0</td>
<td>233,7</td>
<td>114,6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cargo turnover (thousand tons)</td>
<td>262,9</td>
<td>322,9</td>
<td>Increased by 1,2 time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IMPORT AND EXPORT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistic value (million USD)</td>
<td>342,8</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>97,7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cargo turnover (thousand tons)</td>
<td>277,0</td>
<td>334,4</td>
<td>Increased by 1,2 time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity of participants of foreign trade activity</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>107,1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trade volume for 9 months of 2012 year with far-abroad countries was 298,6 million USD (89,1 % from total volume of foreign trade turnover) and with CIS countries – 36,3 million USD (10,9 %).

Cargo turnover for 9 months of 2012 year comparing to the same period increased by 1,2 time and was 334,4 thousand tons. The cargo turnover with far-abroad countries was 331,3 thousand tons (99,1% from total cargo turnover), with CIS countries – 3,1 thousand tons (0,9%).

The export of goods for 9 months of 2012 year was with only far-abroad countries, in comparison with the same period in 2011 it increased and was 233,7 million USD (114,6 % of indexes comparing to 2011).

The cargo turnover increased by 1,2 time and was 322,9 thousand tons.

100% share of the export cargo turnover of the autonomous district is 27 group of the Foreign Economic Activity Commodity Nomenclature: mineral fuel, oil and products of their processing.

Main counteragents are Poland (63,5%), Finland (22,7%), Hungary (7,1%), Romania (4,3%).

The import of the autonomous district decreased by 1,4 time for 9 months of 2012 year comparing to the same period of 2011 and was 101,3 million USD including 65 million USD with far-abroad countries and 36,3 million USD with CIS countries.

The cargo turnover decreased by 1,2 time and was 11,5 thousand tons.

In the nomenclature of the import of Yamal-Nenets autonomous district traditional commodities are those that provide production processes of companies of the fuel and energy complex, main participants of foreign trade activity of the region.

The largest percentage in terms of value (according to the classification of the Foreign Economic Activity Commodity Nomenclature) is:
- equipment and mechanic devices, their details (group 84) – 79,4%;
- products from ferrous metals (group 73) – 16,9%;
- means of surface transport (group 87) – 1,6%.

Main volumes of commodities (by value) came from Ukraine (35,7% of the import commodity turnover), China (23,6%), the USA (15,9%), Austria (8,3%), Italy (5,7%).
Trade structure of the import of the autonomous district for 9 months of 2012 year
Main participants of foreign trade activity of the autonomous district

For the accounting period the percentage of these companies was 96,9% (324,6 million USD) of the commodity turnover of participants of foreign trade activity and 98,6% (273,2 thousand tons) of the cargo turnover.

Finance

In the first half of 2012, the income amounted to 76.4 billion rubles to be 7,8% higher than that for the same period of 2011 (70,9 billion rubles). The autonomous district’s budget income in 2011 was 136,9 billion rubles.

The largest share of incomes to the budget revenues (43,5%) in 2012 came from corporate pro-fits tax – 33,3 billion rubles to be 8,2% higher than that for the first half of 2011 (30,8 billion rubles). Personal tax return to the consolidated district’s budget amounted to 17,3 billion rubles increasing by 15,3% as compared to that for the first half of 2011.
Social infrastructure

**Education.** There are 506 education institutions in the autonomous district. 229 institutions provide early childhood services. In the field of basic education, 141 institutions function, 63% of which are located in urban areas and 37% – in the countryside. Work is continuing to develop research and educational facilities within the professional education system with the centers in the cities of Salekhard, Noyabrsk and Novy Urengoy.

![A school in Salemal.](image1)

**Healthcare.** Medical Service is provided by 36 health care facilities (over 2,000 physicians, more than 6,000 medical technicians). 22 stationary and mobile rural health clinics work for nomadic population. Five mobile medical units comprising physicians and medical technicians from central regional and district health care facilities render medical service to inhabitants of remote localities and fishermen.
Physical Recreation and Sports. 96 sports are practiced in the district; 150,6 thousand people (28,4% of population) systematically engage in sports and physical recreation.

Yamal-Nenets autonomous district has 897 sport facilities including 388 sports halls, 32 swimming pools and 30 ski lodges.

The largest mass events in the region are Ski Track of Russia open mass cross-country skiing; Yamal Ski Track mass cross-country skiing; all-Russian day of running Cross-Country Race of Nations, etc.

80 athletes from 21 sports were the members of the Russia’s first and reserve national teams in 2011. Four inhabitants of the Yamal participated in the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012.

The great attention has been paid to the national sports (throwing an axe at long range, jumping over a sledge, etc.). National sports team of the Yamal used to win leading places in the championships of Russia and the Cup of Russia every year. Since 1992, the Yamal national sports team has represented Russia in the Arctic Winter Games held in the USA and Canada. In March 2012, the Yamalkan First International Snowmobile Marathon was successfully held in Yamal; sportsmen from Russia, Norway, Sweden, Finland and other countries took part in the competition. The competition will become traditional and will facilitate the creation of the Center for Polar Tourism.

Among national holidays of northern peoples, the reindeer herder’s day celebrating annually in early spring is the most colourful. The reindeer herder’s day program includes national sports competitions of nomadic and tundra population.

The Yamalkan First International Snowmobile Marathon, Salekhard
Ethnic wrestling.
Arts and Humanities. Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is one of distinctive regions of Russia. The Yamal culture is based on multi-ethnic traditions of people living in the autonomous district.

The district has 228 arts and culture institutions. *The Shemanovsky Museum and Exhibition Center*, where the mummified body of *Luba world-famous baby mammoth* is stored, can be named the Arctic Hermitage.

The arts and crafts of the masters of artistic crafts are of utmost interest. Currently, there are over 890 artists and masters in the district. Handicrafts are actively developed in the places of traditional living of indigenous peoples of the North. In reindeer herding areas, Yamal, Taz and Nadym, bone and wood carving, fur and rovduga leather craft and sewing with woolens is widespread. In forest tundra, e.g., in
Krasnoselkulp and other areas, birch bark is widely applied for domestic use; in Pur area – basketwork with cedar roots, manufacture of goods made of skins of small fur-bearers (squirrel and ermine). In south areas, Priuralie and Shuryshkar, beadwork, birch bark craft and wood carving prevails.

Tourism. The Yamal tourism infrastructure has 1115 entities of tourist industry and tourist resources. In the first half of 2012, the outbound tourism flow amounted to 38,3 thousand people to be 53,8% higher than that of 2011; inbound tourism flow amounted to 17,2 thousand people (12,9 thousand people – in the first half of 2011). 93% of the total number of the autonomous district visitors were Russian tourists.
Population Standard of Life and Social Protection

In January-May 2012, an average monthly salary per employee has increased by 14,8% as compared to the corresponding period in 2011 and reached 64 615 rubles. The highest salaries are in the fuel and energy sector.

Yamal-Nenets autonomous district is the only Russian region where its citizens are provided with 93 social support measures, 68 of which are regional ones. In particular, to economically promote birth rate growth, since January 1, 2012, the resident inhabitants of Yamal who gave birth to or adopted the third and subsequent children will be entitled to the regional maternity (family) capital of 350 thousand rubles. This sum is additional to the maternity capital from the Federal budget, established by the RF Legislation.

In addition, 16 housing programs are working in the district aimed at improving housing for persons entitled to benefits. In 2011–2012 on the basis of the State programs about 13 thousand families will improve their living conditions.
Mass Media

History of the Yamal mass media began with publishing the first regional newspaper *Krasny Sever* (has been published since April 19, 1931 in Salekhard). Currently, there are 210 mass media entities, 92 of which are print media (68 newspapers and 24 magazines), four information agencies and 114 electronic media entities in the Yamal mass media market. About 2 000 people work in editorial offices of state and municipal media.

Many mass-media of the district have won Russian and international professional competitions, workers of editorial offices were recognized best in the occupation by the colleagues not only from the district but also from the entire country.