Tomsk Oblast
Tomsk Governorate
Tomsk
Tomsk Oblast on the map of Russia
PREHISTORY OF TOMSK OBLAST

4,000 years BC people colonized the entire territory of today’s Tomsk Oblast

1598 – first Russian fortress in Tomsk soil – Narymsky Ostrog – was built

1604 – Tomsk fortress was built

In the 17th century Tomsk was the southernmost outpost of Russian expansion in Siberia.

It withstood multiple sieges by nomads until 1700 when the last siege took place.

In the 18th century Tomsk became a large industrial, trade and transport center.

Up to 100,000 carts with goods passed through Tomsk in eastern and western directions every year. 300 merchants from Tomsk carried on trade across Siberia.

In the 19th century Tomsk became an important logistics center for the Siberian gold mining industry and a place of residence of the Siberian ‘Golden Kings’.
In 1782, the territory of today’s Tomsk Oblast became part of Tobolsk Vicegerency.

In 1798, the territory of today's Tomsk Oblast became part of Tobolsk Governorate.

In 1804-1925, Tomsk Governorate is a full administrative unit of the Russian Empire.

Map of Tomsk Governorate (1825)
1830 – first public library
1838 – first gymnasium
1850 – first theater
1859 – first newspaper Tomskiye Gubernskiye Vedomosti ('Tomsk Governorate News')
1863 – telegraph service came to the region, then came telephone service
1905 – first running water pipelines
By the beginning of the 20th century Tomsk became the largest educational and scientific center in the east of Russia
1888 – Tomsk Emperor’s University
1900 – Tomsk Technological Institute
1910 – Higher Siberian Courses for Women
Largest provincial newspapers are published in Tomsk.
There are dozens of officially registered charity, educational, cooperative, cultural, and professional organizations.

Building of the post and telegraph office on the Yurtochnaya Mountain (1863)
The Tsar regime fell in Tomsk in 1917 without resistance. In May 1918, as the revolt of the Czechoslovak Legion broke out in the region, the city was occupied by the forces of the Provisional Siberian Government and then by Kolchak’s army which faced guerilla resistance. On December 17-18 1919, a revolt by the city’s Bolshevik, Menshevik, socialist revolutionary and anarchist groups liberated Tomsk and the 5th Red Army entered the city. During the Civil War in Siberia towns and villages around Tomsk were reduced to indigence. Tomsk population shrank to 80,000 people.
OBLAST CENTER LOSES ITS STATUS

In 1925-1944, the region was an administrative part of Siberian Krai, then of West Siberian Krai, and finally of Novosibirsk Oblast.

The center of the Soviet Siberia was established in Novonikolayevsk (today’s Novosibirsk), a former downgraded town of Tomsk District.

Tomsk retained its importance as the main supplier of labor and equipment for Siberia’s major coal mining region Kuzbass.

The territory of Tomsk Oblast was made one of the main destinations for exile settlers. The resettled population here was around 220,000 people.

Nikolayevsky Prospekt in Novonikolayevsk (early 20th century)
During World War II Tomsk and Kolpashevo received 40 relocated defense industry facilities, dozens of research institutes, educational and cultural organizations, more than 50,000 evacuated people, and 20 hospitals (10,000 beds). Among the relocated facilities were an electric bulb factory, a cable plant, a bearing manufacturing facility, an electric motor factory, and a rubber plant.

To support operations of the relocated facilities the transport infrastructure had to expand quickly. There were not many cars on narrow roads. Instead, there were many urban trains. By 1941, Tomsk had a very well-developed urban rail network.

A train going along Lenina Avenue carrying coal to the city’s power station
TOMSK OBLAST IN WORLD WAR II

Over the years of the war the industrial output of the region increased threefold, and population doubled. 129,000 people from Tomsk went to fight in the war. Out of them 59,000 were killed.

Tomsk was the place where many famous divisions of the Red Army were set up such as the 166th Rifle Division, 366th Rifle (19th Guards) Division, 79th Guards Division, 149th Rifle Brigade, and other units. 42 people from Tomsk became Heroes of the Soviet Union. Artilleryman Afanassy Shilin was awarded the title twice.

Movements of Siberian divisions
On August 13, 1944 a decree by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR established Tomsk Oblast as it exists today, of 19 districts of Novosibirsk Oblast and Zyryansky District of Kemerovo Oblast.
FAST TRACK DEVELOPMENT OF TOMSK INDUSTRY

Newly established in 1944, Tomsk Oblast is receiving investments for the development of its industry. Many new facilities are built such as an electric power plant, a water supply network, facilities producing enameled wire plants, hoisting equipment, instruments, computing machines, and electronic devices. Forest harvesting operations are mechanized and the construction industry takes shape.

Not far from Tomsk, the world’s largest nuclear facility of the time appears – the Siberian Chemical Combine. It comprised of three nuclear stations and five plants. In 1949, the first tram started operating. There was local aviation and television.
In 1967, by Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Tomsk Oblast was given the highest award of the Soviet Union – the Order of Lenin – for its accomplishments in economy and culture.

In 1954, first oil was produced in the region. In the 80s, oil production volumes exceeded 10 million tons per year.

In 1979, the country’s largest refinery was started up. It produced polypropylene, methanol and formaldehyde.
In 1978, Tomsk Scientific Center of the Siberian Branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences opened.

In 1986, Tomsk Scientific Center of the Soviet Academy of Medical Sciences was established. It was the first regional medical science center in the country.

There were 40 industry-specific research and design institutes, a university and five technical schools.
World famous scientists lived and worked in Tomsk Oblast. Among them physicists Nikolay Semyonov (the only Soviet Nobel laureate in chemistry), Vladimir Zuyev, Vladimir Kuznetsov, Gennady Mesyats, Aleksander Vorobyov; astronaut Nikolay Rukavishnikov; prominent aircraft designers Nikolay Kamov and Mikhail Mil; surgeon Andrey Savinykh and many others.
# LEADERS OF TOMSK OBLAST

## First Secretaries of the Tomsk Oblast Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union
1. Aleksey Syomin (1944-1951)
2. Vasily Moskvin (1951-1959)
3. Ivan Marchenko (1959-1965)

## Chairmen of the Executive Committee of the Soviet of People’s Deputies of Tomsk Oblast
1. N. Barabanschikov (August 1944 – February 1945)
2. Vasily Kupert (February 1945 – June 1949)
3. Donat Filimonov (June 1949 – September 25, 1952)
4. Ivan Vasiliev (September 25, 1952 – February 20, 1967)
7. Rostislav Popadeykin (October 4, 1989 – October 1990)

## Governors of Tomsk Oblast
2. Sergey Zhvachkin (2012-Present)

## Chairpersons of the Legislative Bodies of Tomsk Oblasty
2. Oksana Kozlovskaya (2011-Present)
Today Tomsk Oblast consists of 4 city districts, 16 municipal areas, 3 urban and 115 rural municipalities, 578 villages. There are 6 cities: Tomsk, Seversk, Asino, Kolpashevo, Strezhevoy, and Kedrovy.
The flag and the coat of arms of Tomsk Oblast were approved by the Tomsk Oblast Duma on May 25, 1997. The coat of arms of Tomsk Oblast preserved since 1804 as well as the coat of arms of Tomsk depict a white horse galloping to the right in a green modern French shield twined with oak leaves and a green and white ribbon and crowned with a king’s crown. The flag depicts the coats of arms in the middle of white background.
Tomsk Oblast has an area of 314,000 square kilometers. It is 1.8% of the territory of Russia. Tomsk Oblast is larger than Great Britain and Ireland combined.

Swamps are 40% of the region. The Vasyugan Swamp is the largest swamp in the world (53,000 sq km).

There are 573 rivers with total length 39,500 km; and 12,900 lakes with total area 4,451 sq km.

Average annual temperature is 3°C in the north-east and 0.6°C in the south. Compare to Moscow at +5.8°C.
Forests occupy 28.6 million hectares or 58% of the territory of the region.

Tomsk Oblast ranks the 8th in Russia for commercial forest reserves (2.8 billion cu m). The annual forest utilization rates do not exceed 1.7 million cu m. There are 24 Siberian cedar nut harvesting zones with a total area of 394,800 hectares.

There are 347 species of vertebrate animals, among them 28 commercial species, more than 30 bird species and 19 fish species.

There are 15 faunal areas, 3 protected landscape areas, 1 botanical garden, and 145 regionally important natural monuments.

Mouthpiece Lake (Kargasoksky District). The lake is unique for its depth and high silver content.
Since 1966, 330 million tons of oil has been produced, or 20% of all extractable resources.

The total oil and gas prospect area is 224,000 sq km or 70% of the region’s territory. Only the area of 73,000 sq km is being developed, meaning that 75% of the oil and gas reserves is yet to be discovered.

The subsoil of Tomsk Oblast contains more than 57% of the national iron ore reserves, 18% of zirconium ore, 9% of titanium, 6% of aluminum, 5% of brown coal, 4% of zinc and large groundwater reserves.

In the south-east of the region there are gold and stibium prospecting areas. The region is rich in sand and gravel, brick earth, silica sand, sapropels, and peat.
Population of the region is 1,070,000 people or 0.7% of the Russian population, with 70% of the people living in urban areas.

Since the official formation of Tomsk Oblast in 1944, the population of the region grew 1.6 times.

Tomsk Oblast is one of the 24 regions of Russia which has enjoyed natural population growth for 7 years in a row.

The region has a low average population density of 3.4 per sq km vs national average 8.4 per sq km.

There are more than 100 nationalities, including Russians 92%, Tatars 1.7%, Ukrainians 1.1%, Germans 0.9%, Azerbaijanis, Chuvashs, and Uzbekistanis 0.4% each.

Indigenous people include Tatars, Selkups, Khanty, Chulyms.
TOMSK OBLAST STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS FOR 2020

High wellbeing rates and living standards

A well developed and balanced competitive economy securing high income

Make Tomsk Oblast the best place to live and work

Innovation-driven economic development

A comfortable environment for living, working, and raising children

Effective governance

Well-developed infrastructure

Sustainable use of natural resources
TOMSK OBLAST TODAY

The economy of Tomsk Oblast has two strategic advantages – abundant mineral and fuel resources and intellectual power.

The region’s GRP exceeds 400 billion rubles. For its GRP per capita rate Tomsk Oblast is in top three regions in the Siberian Federal District.

Oil and gas production account for the biggest percentage of the GRP. Other big contributors are processing facilities, transport and communications, trade, agriculture, and construction industry.
Since 2002, the region has been implementing an innovative development strategy. It has developed and efficient innovative infrastructure which includes a special economic zone of technical innovation type in the city of Tomsk, 13 commercialization offices for innovative ideas by universities and academic institutes, 8 business incubators, 1 center for technology and innovations, etc. The SEZ has 59 registered residents, among them 12 residents with foreign equity. There are 26 IT and electronics firms, 9 companies specialize in nanotechnology and new materials, 9 companies are dedicated to resource-saving technology, and 15 companies specialize in medicine and biotechnology. The region’s budget has invested in the SEZ’s fixed assets 12.2 billion rubles. Private capital has totaled around 6 billion rubles. The SEZ’s innovative production output is worth 5 billion rubles. 1,341 new jobs were created.