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TRENDS IN THE HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE ARCTIC

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Abstract. The healthcare infrastructure is one of the key components of the social sphere. People living in harsh Arctic conditions especially need high-quality medical services to offset the negative impact of natural and climatic factors. This study identified and analyzed the main trends in the healthcare infrastructure development in fourteen Arctic municipalities of the Northern macro-region. The meso-regional level of spatial-territorial systems is considered separately. As a result of the rate analysis of changes in the health infrastructure development indicators over a fourteen-year period, the main problems were identified. Negative trends were identified, which were formed, first of all, in providing the population with medical facilities in a hospital: there is a decrease in the provision with hospital beds, the possibility of hospital treatment. This problem concerns all studied Arctic territories. Trends in the infrastructure provision for outpatient care do not cause concern. there is a significant reduction in the staffing of healthcare facilities in the Arctic municipalities of the Arkhangelsk region and the Komi Republic. Also, the indicators' statistical accounting problems about the provision with health infrastructure at the municipal level were identified.

Keywords: healthcare; Arctic; municipalities; infrastructure; trends.

JEL codes: I14; I18; R50.

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