

Territorial Trends in the Baltic Sea Region

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ESPON BSR-TeMo

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Structure

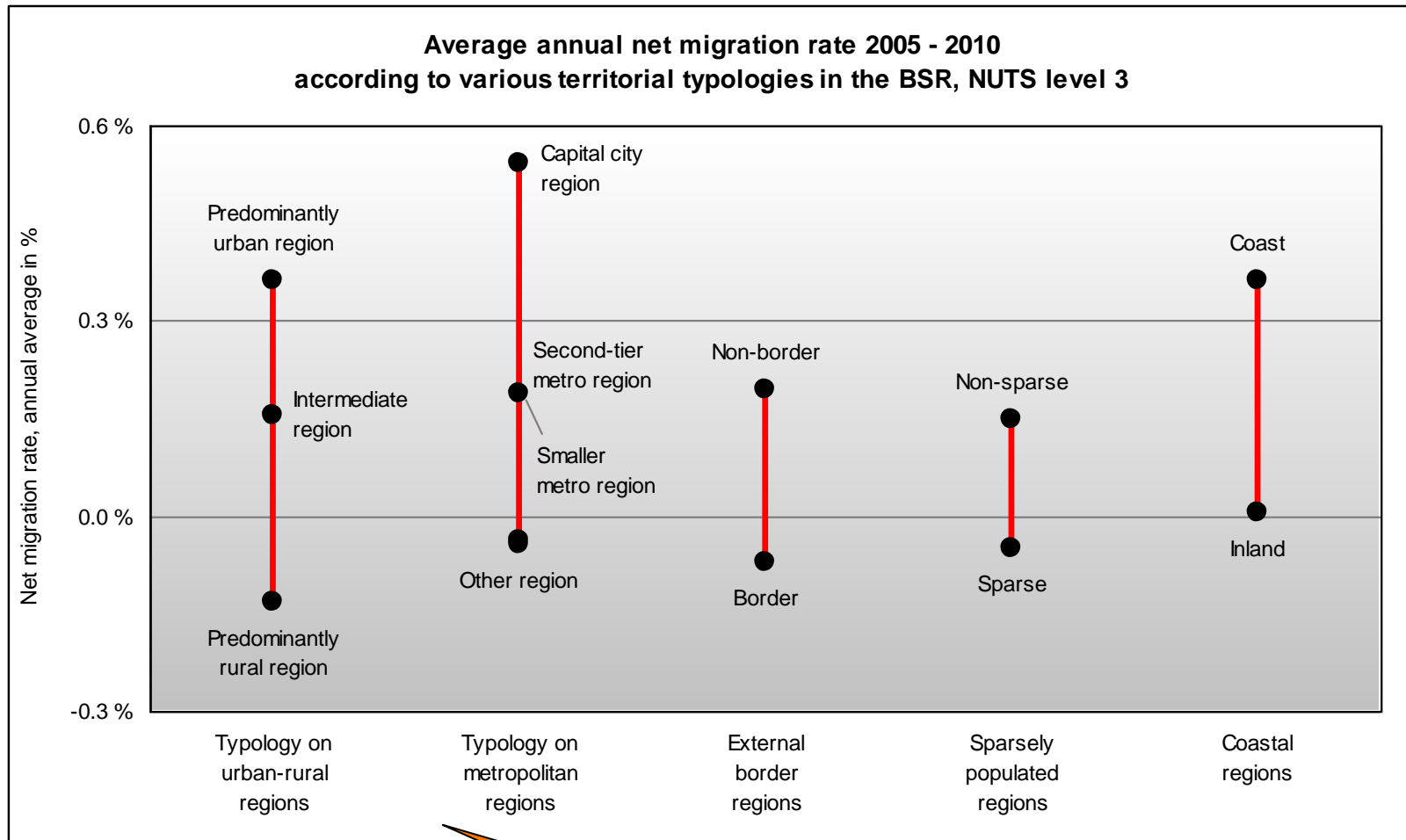
- I. Snapshot of territorial trends in the BSR
- II. BSR divides and territorial cohesion

I. SNAPSHOT OF TERRITORIAL TRENDS IN THE BSR

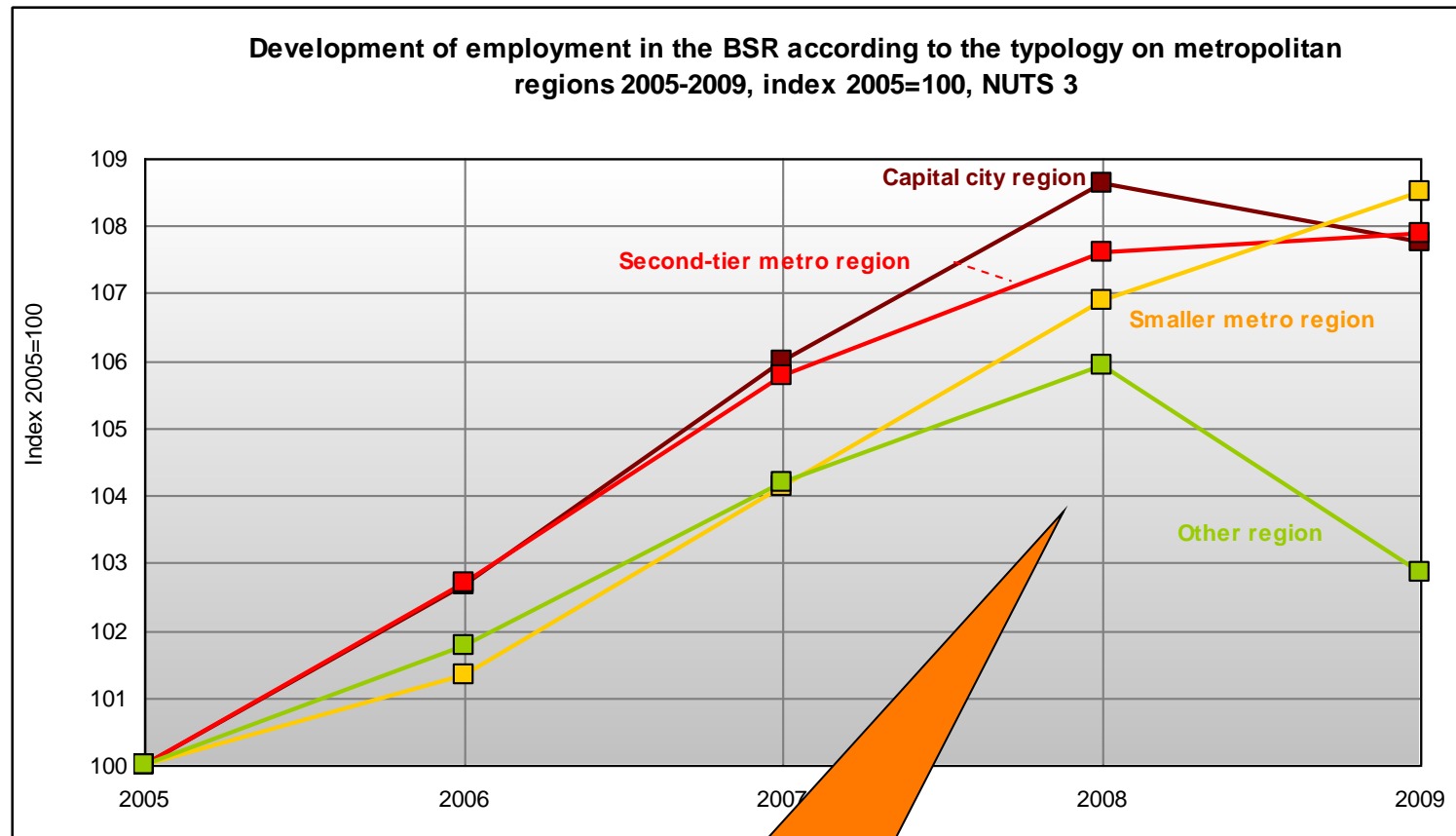
1. Increasing spatial polarisation of BSR territories

- A clear trend of increasing spatial polarisation is further aggravating already existing unbalanced regional structures
- Selected opposite trends indicate a more balanced development with increasing convergence (e.g. rapidly decreasing east-west economic divide in the BSR)

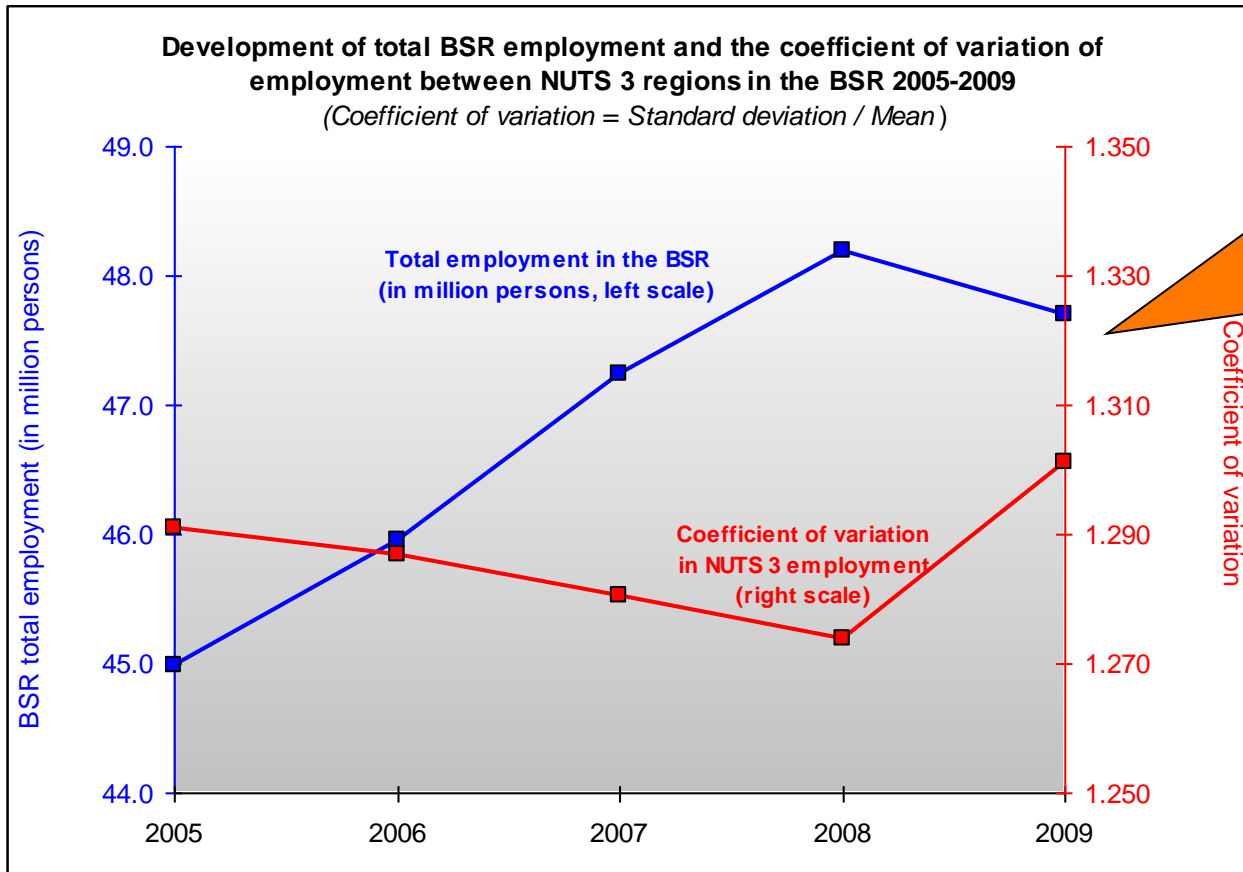
Example: migration 2005-2010



Example: jobs gained and lost in the BSR – territorially specific spatial patterns



Example: jobs gained and lost in the BSR – macroregional spatial patterns

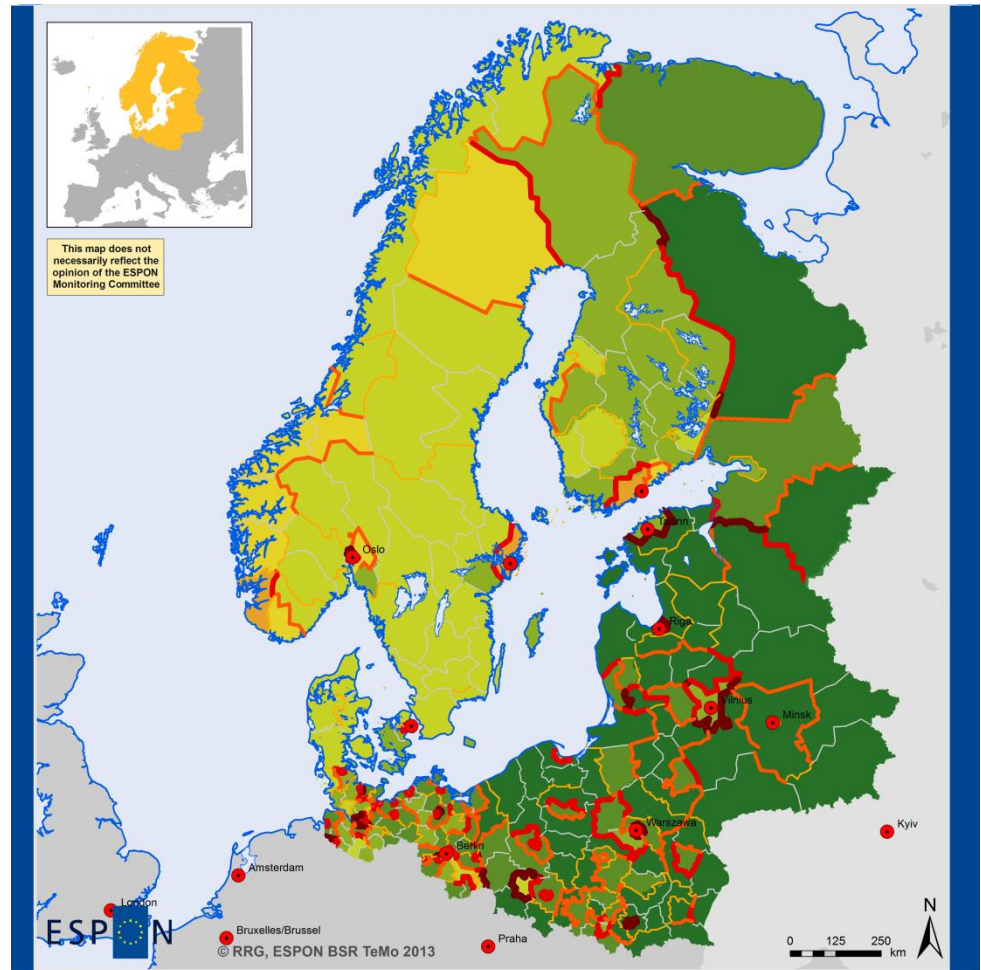


When the nr of jobs in the BSR increased, that increase was beneficial to most regions

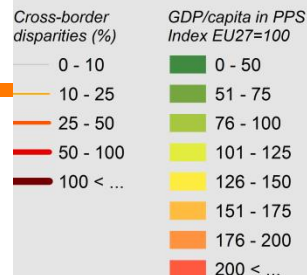
When the nr of jobs declined (following the credit crunch), the decline hit mostly weaker regions, resulting in increased concentration

2. Aggravated territorial disparities

- Territorial disparities between contiguous (adjacent) regions have in the past 15 years “exploded”
- The urban hierarchy is a decisive factor in dictating the magnitude these disparities
- Corresponding analysis within a more pronounced social context shows differing patterns



Territorial discontinuity at NUTS-3 level in GDP per capita in PPS 2010



Regional level: NUTS-3, oblasts (BY, RU)
Source: Eurostat (EU/EFTA countries), Belstat / Rosstat (BY, RU)
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries
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DK041, DK042, FI181, FI182: 2009
Data for NW Russia and Belarus estimated through ratio of national GDP of Russia and Belarus in international \$ PPP compared to the corresponding value for EU27.

3. Specific types of territories

In the BSR, “specific types” of territories, including e.g. rural, peripheral, or border regions:

- are generally lagging behind in most aspects of socioeconomic development; and
- harnessing the untapped potential of such territories implies considerable possibilities

Example: GDP per inhabitant in the BSR subdivided by various territorial typologies

Specific types of BSR territories are generally lagging behind

Most development trends are not cohesive

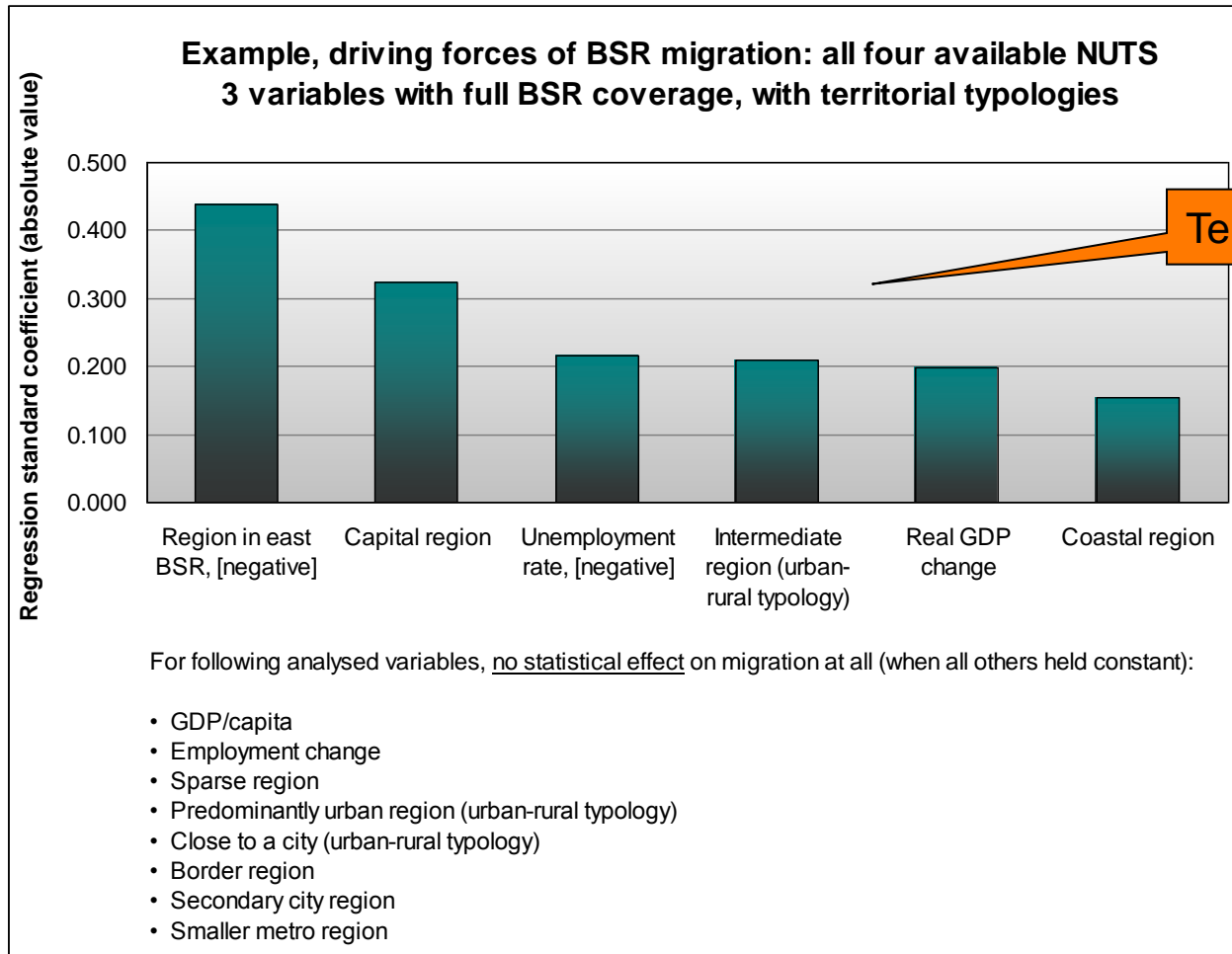
GDP per capita in PPS, index: EU27=100			
	ca. 2005	ca. 2009	Development ca. 2005-2009: points change to EU27 average
The Baltic Sea Region (BSR)	75	81	+6
of which:			
- western BSR	124	122	-2
- eastern BSR	50	60	+10
Typology on urban-rural regions			
Predominantly urban regions	98	109	+11
Intermediate regions	66	71	+5
of which:			
- close to a city	66	71	+5
- remote	71	74	+2
Predominantly rural regions	62	65	+3
of which			
- close to a city	53	57	+4
- remote	86	85	-1
Typology on metropolitan regions			
Capital city regions	101	112	+11
Second-tier metro regions	84	89	+5
Smaller metro regions	58	64	+5
Other regions	61	65	+4
Typology on regions in external border programmes			
Border regions	46	53	+8
Non-border regions	82	88	+6
Typology on sparsely populated regions			
Sparsely populated regions	90	91	+1
Not sparsely populated regions	74	80	+7
Typology on coastal regions			
Coastal regions	95	101	+6
Non-coastal regions	62	68	+6

4. BSR migration steered by territory

A multivariate analysis of driving forces behind migration patterns in the BSR revealed that

- handicapped socio-economic structures resulting from permanent locational characteristics play a surprisingly strong role in steering migration flows; and that
- e.g. the status as the national capital or a secondary city, being a predominantly urban or an intermediate region, as well as lying by the coast, all have stronger effect on net migration than does e.g. GDP/capita

Example, multivariate analysis, driving forces of BSR migration: four socioeconomic variables and territorial typologies



5. Social inclusion and QoL

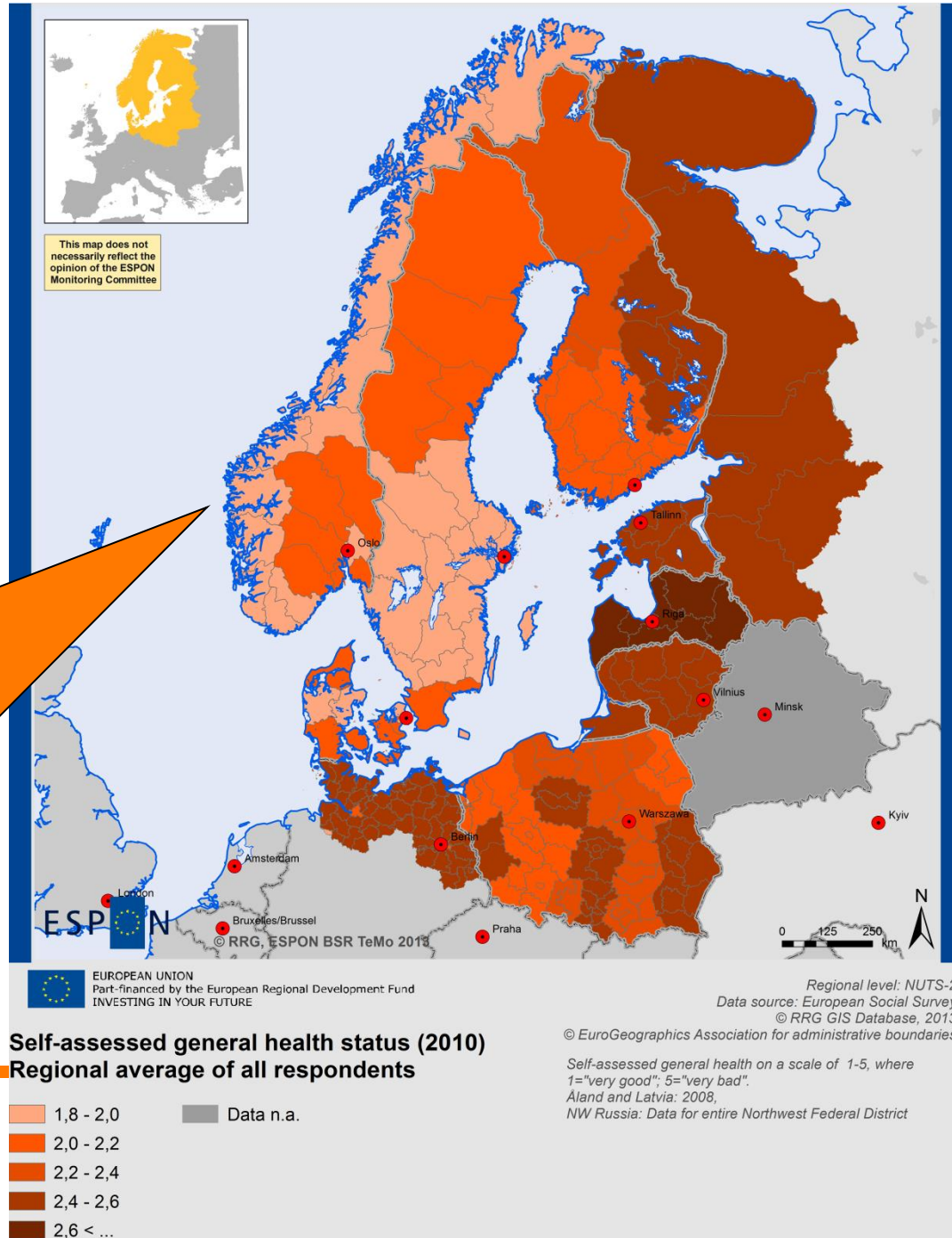
- The eastern BSR displays huge internal variations in e.g. life expectancy and the gap to western BSR is substantial. The development trends are however cohesive
- In terms of subjective general health, the east-west divide is not clear-cut
- Economic welfare only partly explains existing patterns in health
- East-west differences in particularly absolute poverty are very large within the BSR

Example: self-assessed general health status 2010

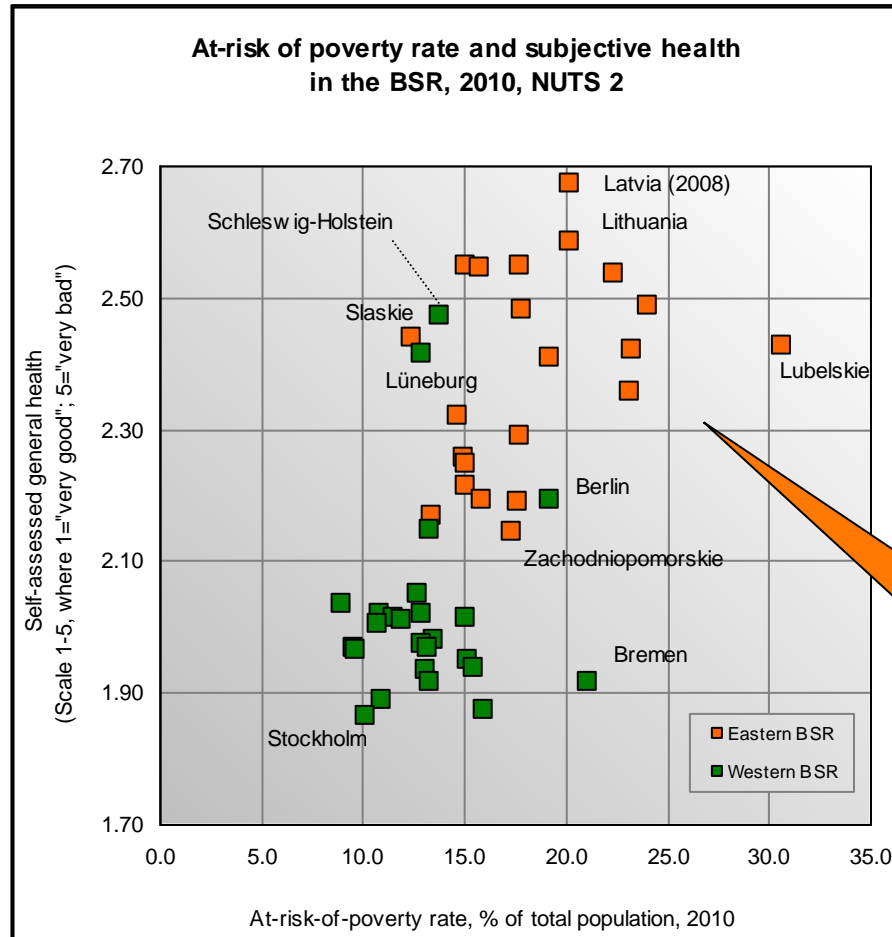
Light colours: better health,
dark colours: worse health

Self-assessed health good
measurement of effectiveness of
health care system, life style,
awareness, etc.

No clear-cut territorial patterns or
trends, but east-west gap is
somewhat apparent



Example on bivariate analysis: relative poverty and health



Bad health and poverty hand in hand in eastern BSR

II. BSR DIVIDES AND TERRITORIAL COHESION

1. Ten indicators for measuring overall Territorial Cohesion in the BSR

The ten indicators aiming at measuring Territorial Cohesion in the BSR

- target general Territorial Cohesion objectives as well as specific BSR challenges
- can be applied on *any variable* in order to highlight general mega trends in territorial cohesion in the region
- ensure a multidimensional approach in applying these, which enables coherent interpretation of mixed, often confusing, signals

Ten indicators measuring Territorial Cohesion in the BSR

(1.) The Gini Concentration Ratio

(2.) The Atkinson index

Distribution/inequality

(3.) The 80/20 ratio

(4.) Sigma-convergence

Convergence

(5.) Beta-convergence

(6.) The east/west ratio

(7.) The south/north ratio

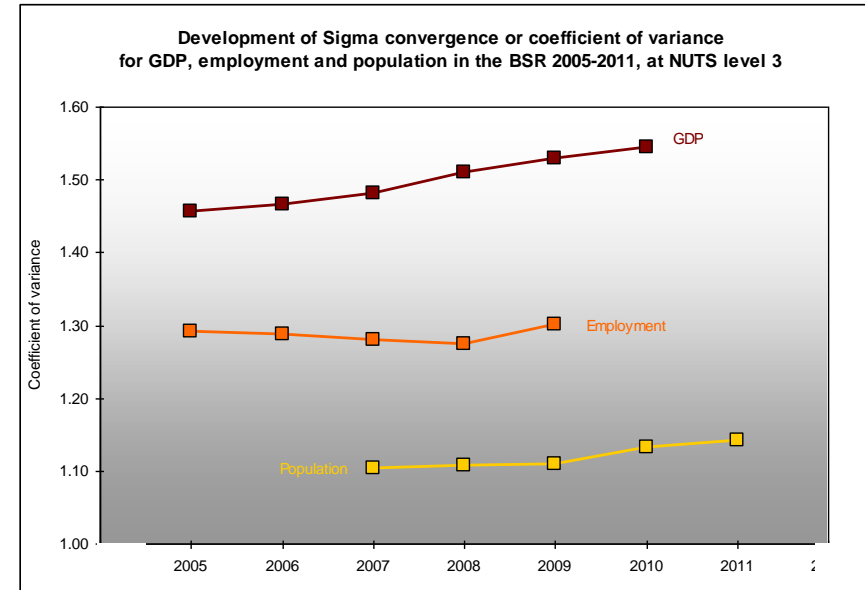
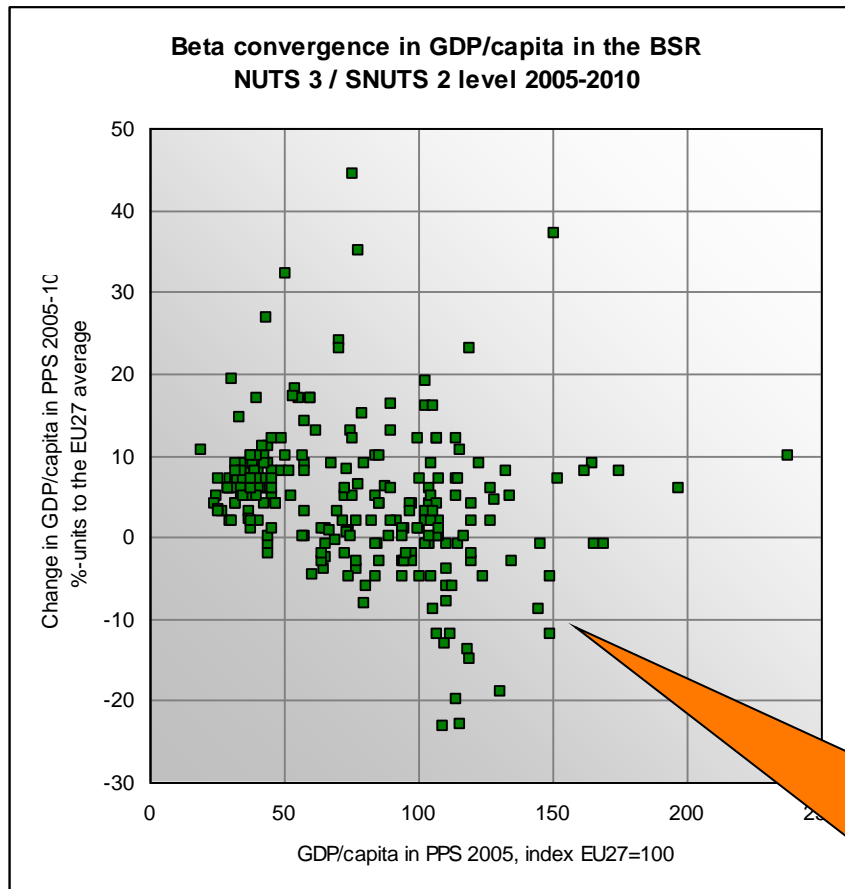
(8.) The urban/rural ratio

Targeted BSR Territorial
Cohesion Indicators

(9.) The non-border/border ratio

(10.) The coast/inland ratio

Example: convergence measurements



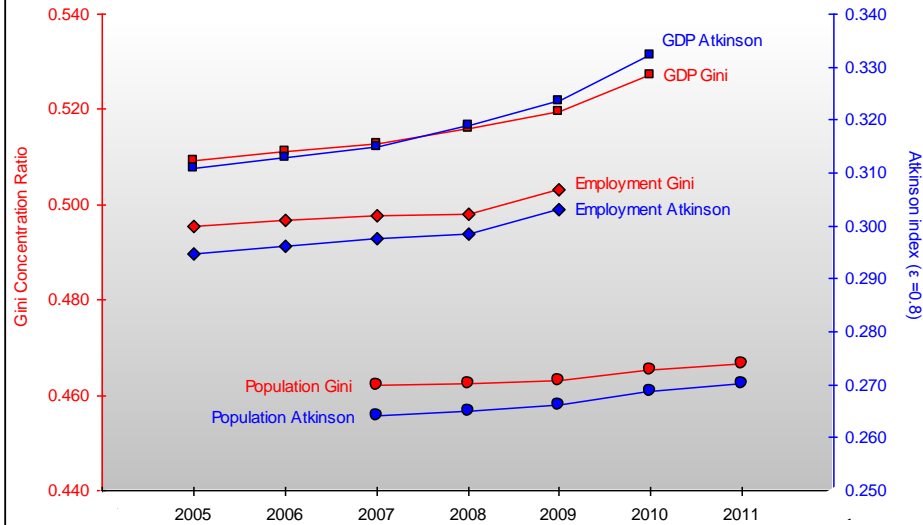
“Poorer” regions in the BSR catch up on the “richer” ones

... but simultaneously ...

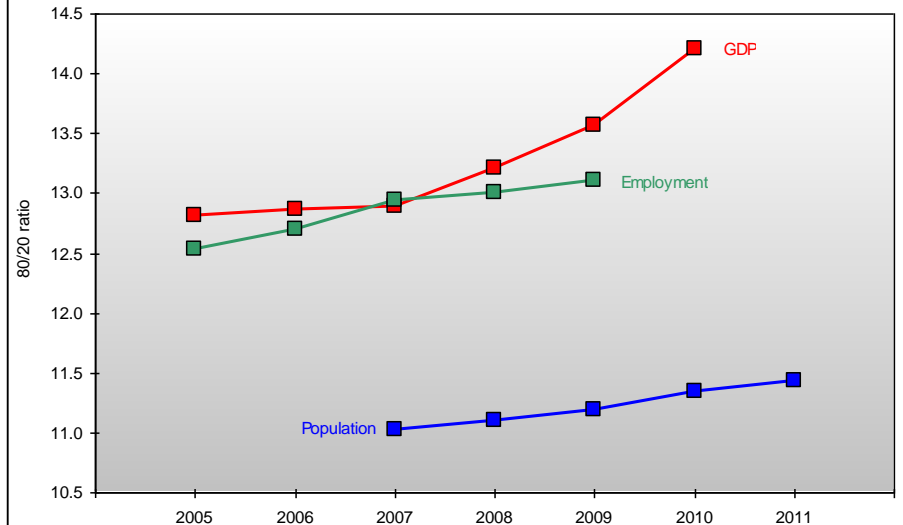
economic output gets increasingly concentrated (right graph)

Example: distribution measurements

Development of the Gini Concentration Ratio and the Atkinson index for GDP, employment and population in the BSR 2005-2011, at NUTS level 3



Development of the 80/20 or Kuznets Ratio for GDP, employment and population in the BSR 2005-2011, at NUTS level 3



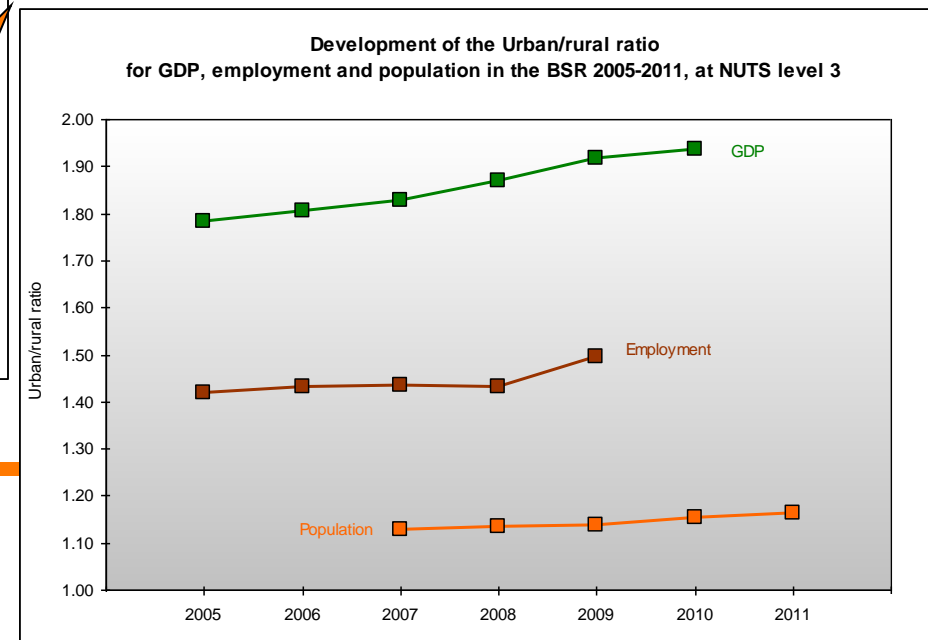
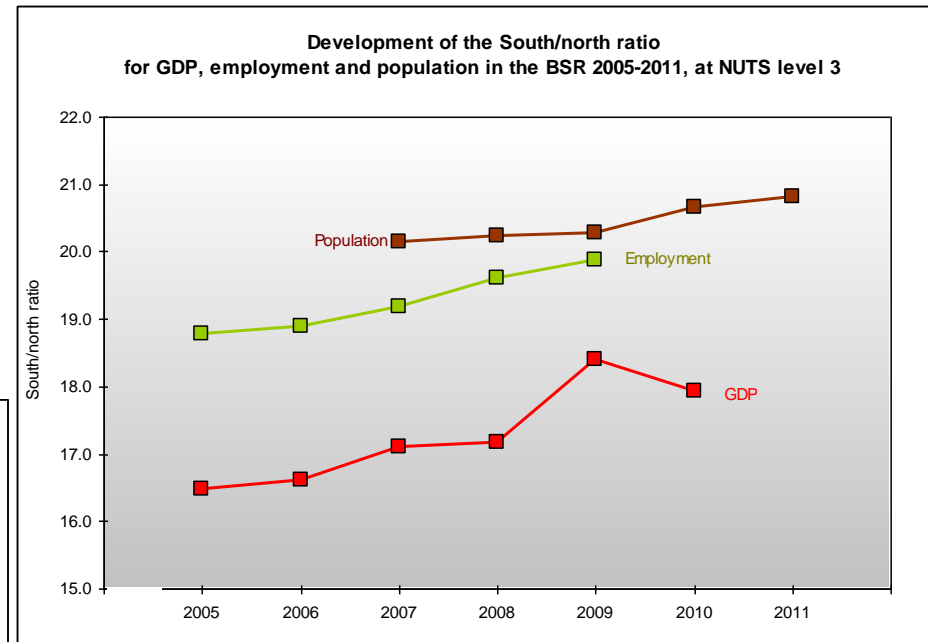
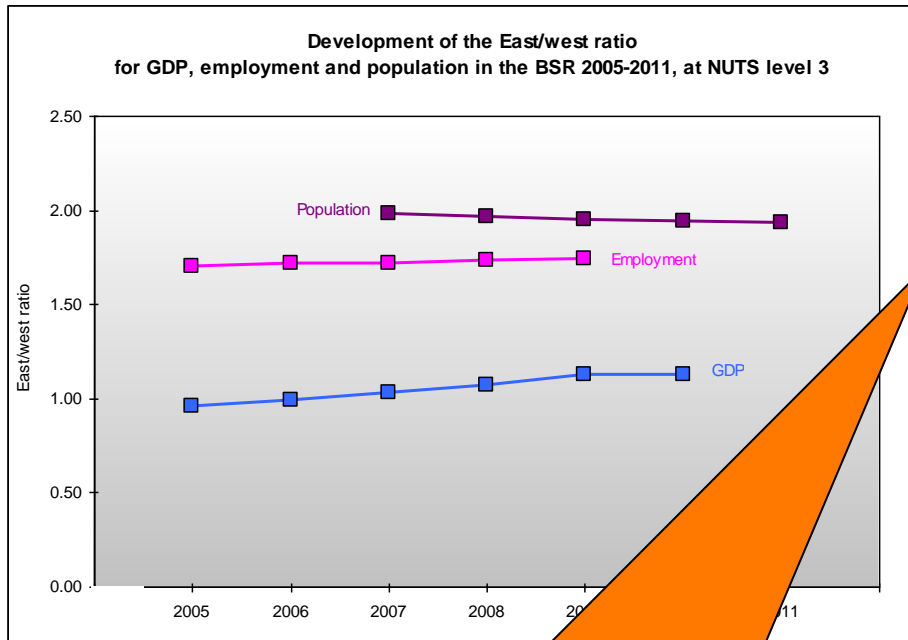
Overall trend: increasing segregation among regions

Economic output more concentrated than jobs, which are more concentrated than people

2. Assessing the three principal territorial divides of the BSR

- Both the North-South gap as well as the Urban-Rural gap of the BSR is growing further still
- The East-West gap also exists, but it is changing form ...
- ... from having been a primarily economic gap sharpest along the former iron curtain, it has now changed into a far more multifaceted divide, where social differences today are possibly the most pronounced ones

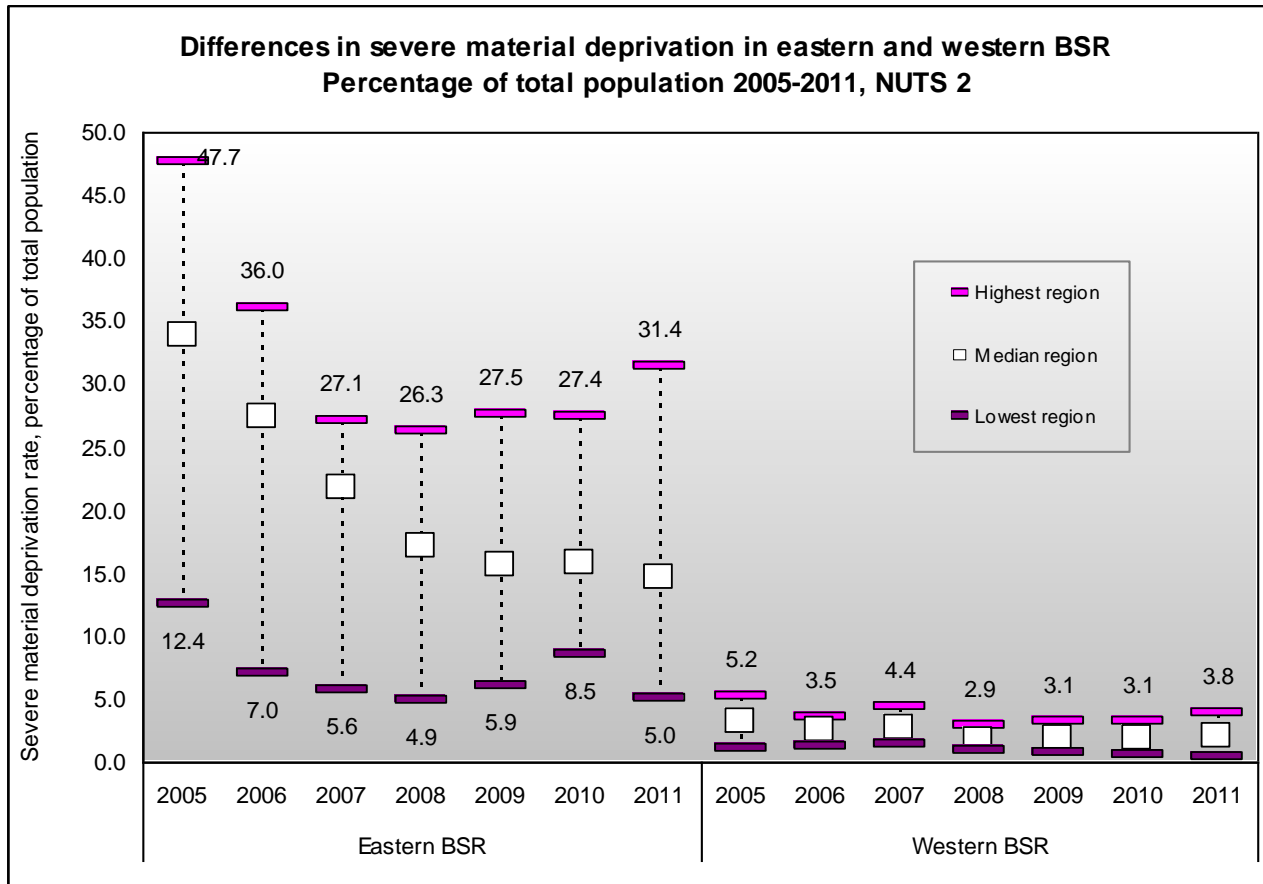
Example: measurements addressing the three principal BSR divides



The north-south and the urban-rural gaps are growing further

The east-west gap is partially closing

Example on QoL trends: (relative) poverty and (absolute) deprivation



Key messages

- Increasing spatial polarisation
- Aggravated territorial disparities
- Specific BSR territories on the tightrope, but with much untapped potential
- For development, territory matters
- Increasing concentrational tendencies
- North-South and Urban-Rural gaps growing further still
- East-West gap also exists, but shifting form from *primarily* economic to *primarily* social

Further information: Research team & VASAB CSPD/BSR

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