

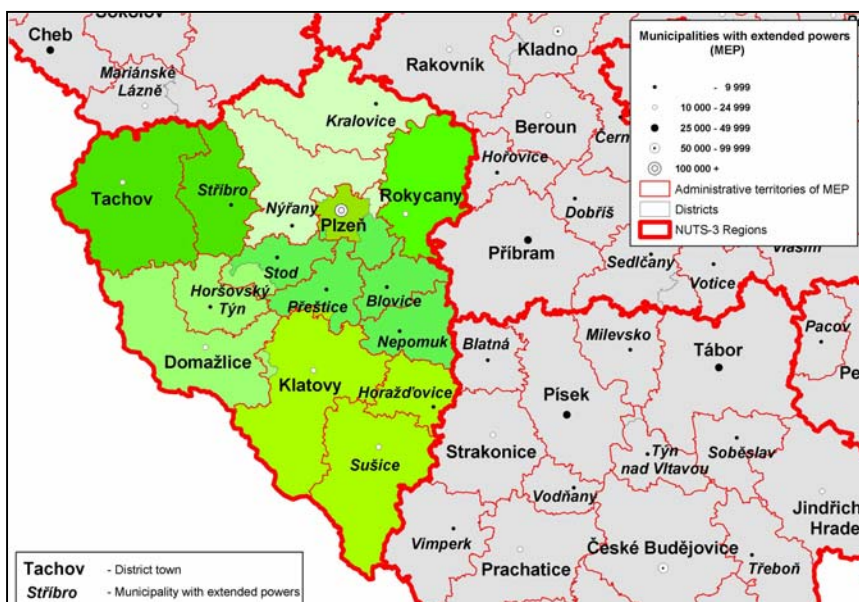


PLZEŇSKÝ REGION



The *Plzeňský* Region covers the southwest of *Česká kotlina* (Basin), and its area has been a significant bridge that connected Czech lands and West European countries since the Middle Ages up to now. The western part of the Region (180 km—the longest section of the Region's borders) makes up the CR's state border with the Federal Republic of Germany. The Region's neighbours are the *Karlovarský* Region and a small part of the *Ústecký* Region in the north, the *Středočeský* Region in the northeast, and the *Jihočeský* Region in the southeast. The location of the *Středočeský* Region on the line connecting the capital city of the Czech Republic and Western Europe is advantageous. Rather disputable was, however, the advantageousness of the dominant orientation of the production sphere to one large enterprise (*Škoda Plzeň*).

The Region stretches on 7 562 km², 9.59% of the area of the CR. Forest stands cover 2 976 km²; the afforestation proportion is 39%—slightly above the average, by about one fifth. Agricultural land occupies 3 845 km²; the percentage of



arable land is slightly down on that of the CR (by about 5%) and changed little with time. *Mokrá* in *Šumava* (Mountains) is the highest peak (1 370 m) of the Region; the lowest point (250 m a.s.l.) is the level of the River *Berounka*, between the districts of *Rokycany* and *Rakovník*. The landscape relief changes from hilly land at the town of *Plzeň* to highland close to the Region's borders and to mountains, especially in the south (*Šumava*).

The Region consists of 7 districts (*Domažlice*, *Klatovy*, *Plzeň-jih*, *Plzeň-město*, *Plzeň-sever*, *Rokycany*, and *Tachov*). It includes 501 municipalities whose average area and average population are 15.0 km² and 1 088, respectively. 69% of the municipalities, where 12% of the Region's population live, have 500 inhabitants or less, while 20% and 24% of the Region's population live in municipalities with up to 2 000 and 10 000 inhabitants, re-

spectively. The Region is divided into 15 administrative territories of municipalities with extended powers, 220 to 950 km² in size and 11 thousand to 180 thousand in population.

The Region has long industrial and other production traditions; its centre with complex infrastructure, the capital *Plzeň* (the fourth largest town of the CR), also fulfils functions of supra-regional significance. The capital has a first-rate network of schools of all levels (including 7 university faculties), and rich cultural, historical and tourism potential. The radial road and railway networks provide good accessibility to the capital from the whole Region, and the position on the motorway network offers the advantage of fast access to the motorway network of Western Europe.

Selection of topical indicators

Number of inhabitants (31.12.2004)		549,618	Average monthly gross wage (2004) ⁴		16,820
incl.	Foreigners with long-term stay ¹	7,624	Unemployment rate based on LFS (%; 2004)		5.8
	Foreigners with permanent residence	4,882	Employment in sectors (%; 2004)	Primary	4.4
Number of municipalities / towns (31.12.2004)		501 / 46		Secondary	43.0
Population living in the regional capital (%)		29.6		Tertiary	52.7
Live-born children outside marriage (%; 2004)		30.3	Completed dwellings, total (2004)		2,032
Population with university education ² (2004)	males	10.6	incl. Dwellings in family houses (%)		37.5
	females	7.4	Guests in accommodation establishments, total (2004)		519,024
Economically active population (2004)		279,631	incl. Foreign nationals (%)		32.9
incl. Employers or own-account workers (%)		14.3	GDP per capita (Purchasing power parity, 2003)		14,889
			Gross fixed capital formation per capita (in CZK, 2003)		51,812
Economic activity rate (2004) ³	males	68.9	Net disposable income of households per capita (CZK, 2003)		125,692
	females	50.9			

¹ Foreigners with visas over 90 days

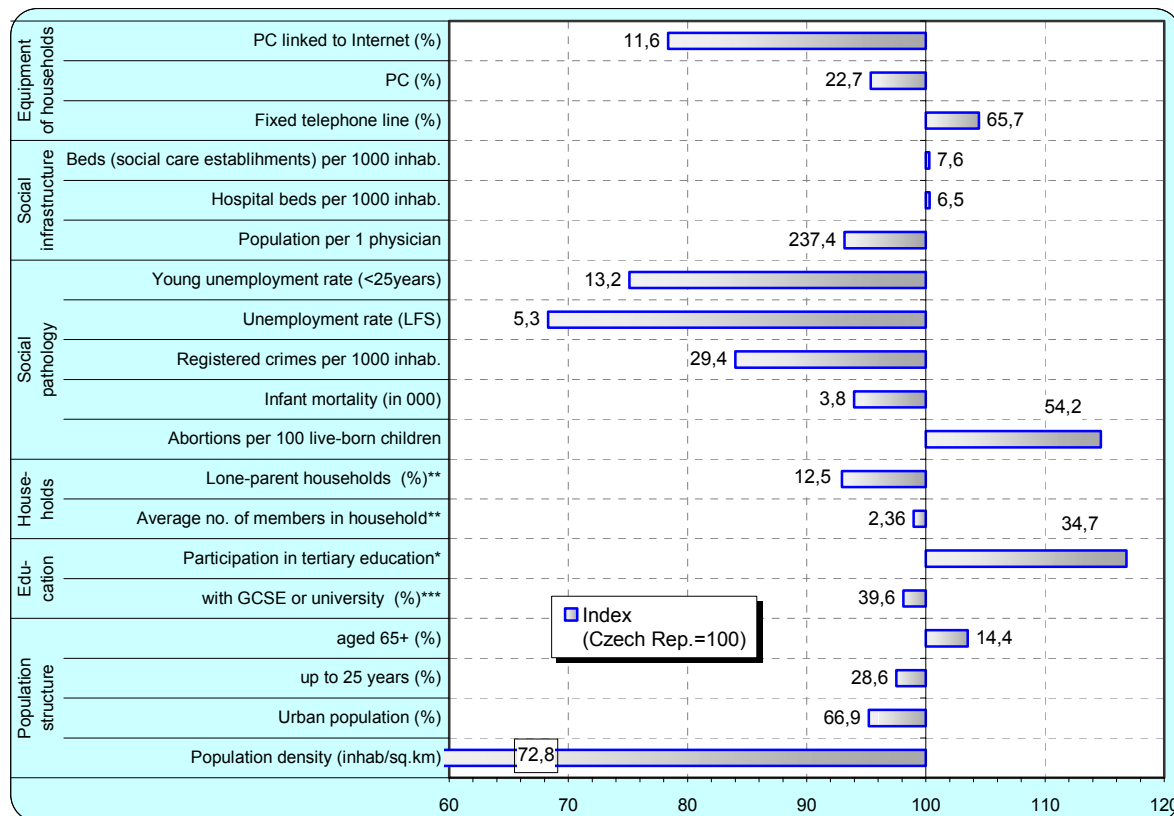
² Related to population aged 15+

³ Share (%) of economically active persons from total population aged 15+

⁴ in CZK, per employee in national economy (excluding armed forces), enterprise method (i.e. by head office of enterprise)



Demography and social life - region compared with the Czech Republic



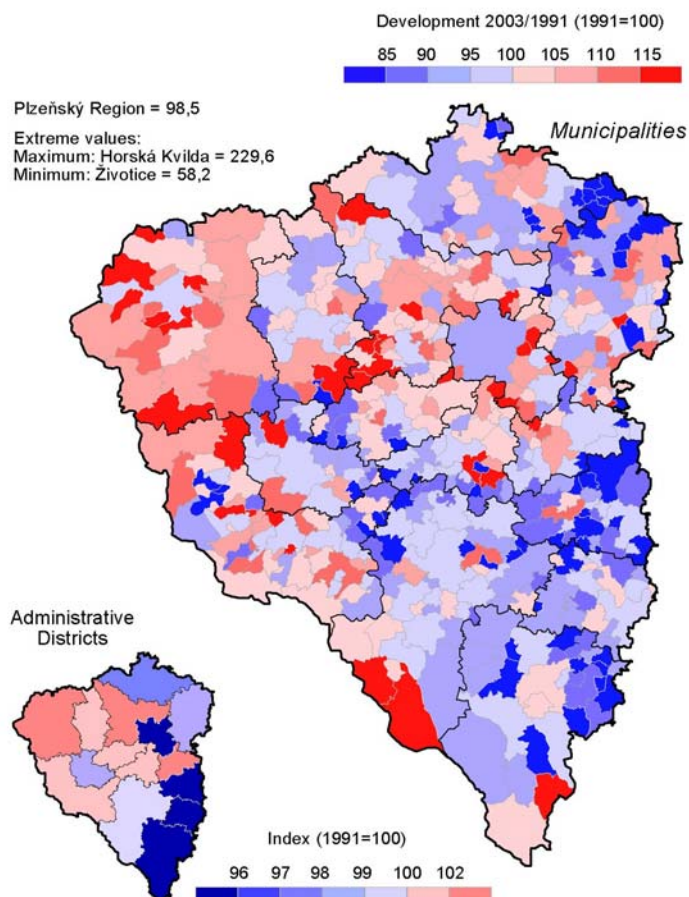
Note. Figures in graph (beside bars) express value of indicator (in region), x-axis relation of this value to national level.

* Share (%) of students aged 20-24 in total population aged 20-24

** From Population census 2001 (all indicators in graph refer to 2003, except for abortions and infant mortality which refer to 2001-2003)

*** related to total population aged 15+

Changes of total number of population in 1991-2003





An increase in the population after 9 years

After nine years of annual decreases, the Region's population increased in 2003 again. A higher proportion of older people and a relatively small proportion of the child component characterize the age distribution of the population. The proportion of working-age population is also higher. Changes in the age distribution are quite significant and affected by migration to a large extent. The concentration of job opportunities affects the number of

of persons aged 0-14 plus persons aged 65+ per 100 persons aged 15-64) decreases very moderately and approaches the national average now (the Region 41.4, the CR 41.2). Ageing of the population becomes evident in a greater average age that is now by 0.5 years up on the national average (39.5).

Over last six years the number of live births regularly increases very slightly. The crude birth rate reaches 9 live births per 1 000 population already. Nevertheless, the Re-

th of the oldest component of the population. The number of abortions decreases and reaches interesting values: in 2003, there were 55.7% of abortions of the year 1993. Abortion rates are still above the national average, though. The natural increase in the Region's population steadily reaches negative values. Thanks to migration only, which was mostly positive in last 10 years, the population could rise in 2003 again.

Problems with the restructuring of industry

The position of the Region on the connecting line of Bohemia with west-European countries and the neighbourhood with Germany was reflecting in the past and is also reflecting now in the life and development of the Region. This is also related to a great many of historical monuments of which some go beyond the regional and also the national framework. The industry was developing in the Region for more than 100 years, which applies to engineering in particular. This contributed to a marked growth of the significance of the Region; lately, though, the transformation of the industry, the restructuring of production and changes in the market have sometimes produced negative changes in, e.g., the structure of employment, growth of unemployment, and downward trend of the regional share in nationwide gross fixed capital formation.

Comprehensive evaluation according to main macroeconomic indicators puts the Region in the second place among the regions, just next to the *Hl. m. Praha Region*.

Population and vital statistics: 1993/2003

Population, 31 December 1993	557,080
Live births (average for 1994-1998)	4,934
Deaths (average for 1994-1998)	6,452
Net migration (average for 1994-1998)	612
Population, 31 December 1998	552,553
Live births (average for 1999-2003)	4,828
Deaths (average for 1999-2003)	6,021
Net migration (average for 1999-2003)	801
Population, 31 December 2003	550,113

Age distribution of the population: 31 December 2003

Age	Total	Total	Men	Women
	Thous.	%	%	%
0 - 14	81.8	14.9	15.6	14.2
15 - 24	73.8	13.4	14.0	12.9
25 - 39	125.9	22.9	23.8	22.0
40 - 54	117.6	21.4	21.9	20.7
55 - 64	71.7	13.0	12.9	13.2
65 -	79.3	14.4	11.8	17.0
Total	550.1	100.0	100.0	100.0

immigrants and this in turn affects the proportion of the productive component of the population. The dependency ratio, i.e. the ratio of persons aged 65+ and persons aged 0-14, increases year by year and reaches 96.9 currently (as against 91.6 in the CR). The index of economic burden (defined as the ratio

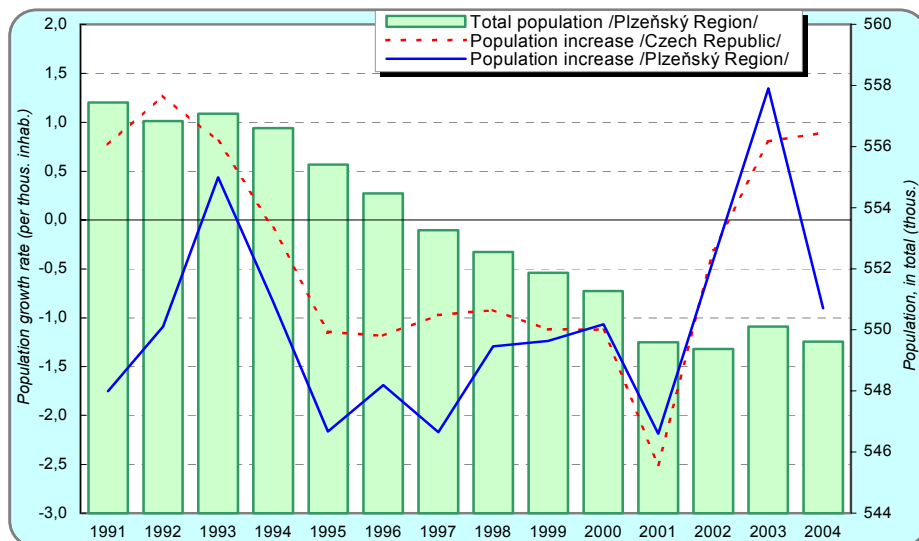
gion has constantly the lowest birth rate in the CR, right after Prague. The number of illegitimate children raises significantly—already 29.3% of all live births in 2003, which is more than nationwide values. The number of death is on a modest increase in the Region, but this corresponds to the numerical grow-

Significant employers: by head office of enterprise, 2003

Name	Head Office	Activity	No. of workers
Fakultní nemocnice	Plzeň 3	Health care	> 3 000
Plzeňský Prazdroj, a.s.	Plzeň 3	Beer brewing	> 2 500
Alcoa Fujikura Czech, s.r.o.	Stříbro	Manufacture of electrical machinery	> 1 500
DIOSS Nýřany, a.s.	Nýřany	Manufacture of electrical machinery	> 1 500
Panasonic AVC Networks Czech, s.r.o.	Plzeň 3	Manufacture of radio, television and com. equipment	> 1 500
SY Wiring Technologies Czech, s.r.o.	Plzeň 2	Manufacture of electrical machinery	> 1 500
Vishay Electronic, s.r.o.	Přeštice	Manufacture of radio, television and com. equipment	> 1 500
Západočeská univerzita v Plzni	Plzeň 3	Education	> 1 500
Plzeňské městské dopravní podniky, a.s.	Plzeň 3	Transport	> 1 000
Západočeská energetika, a.s.	Plzeň 2	Electricity supply	> 1 000

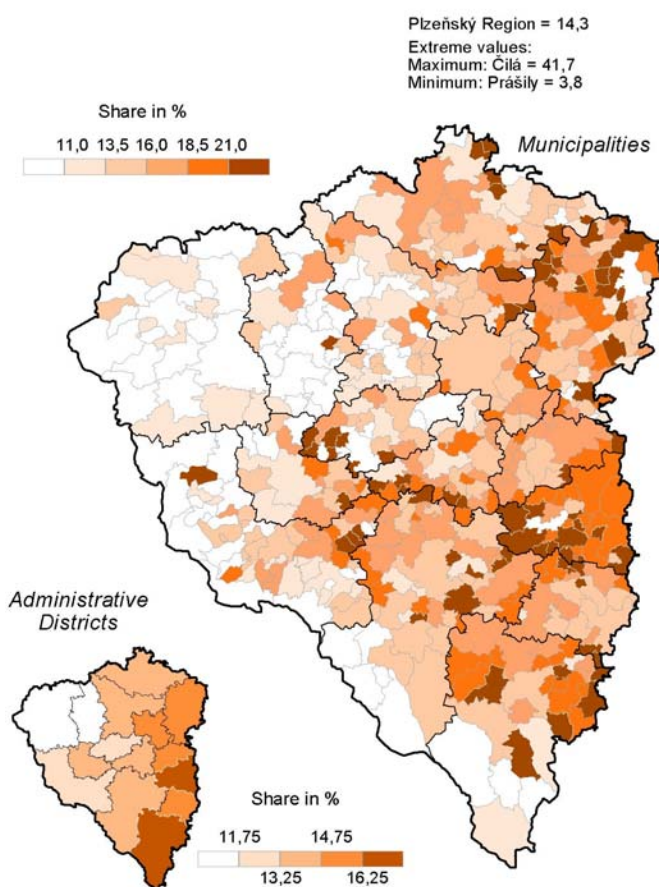


Total population - development in region and CR (31 Decemeber)

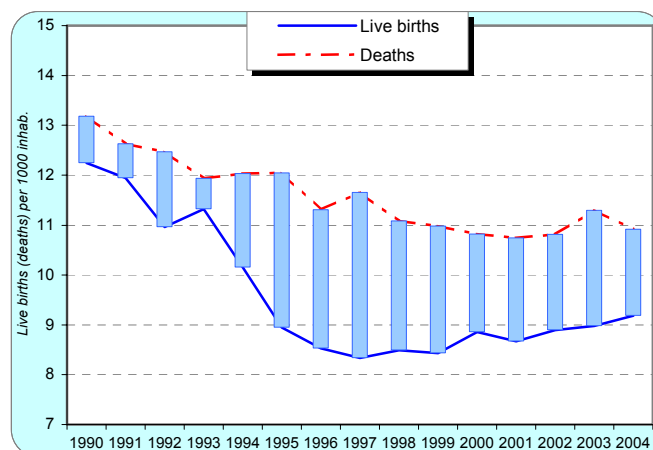


Data since 2001 reflect the Housing and Population Census (1.3.2001) results and also include foreigners who were granted long-term stays (i.e. foreigners with visas over 90 days). Population decrease 2001 was influenced mainly by Census (1.3.2001), which found out lower population than that registered by yearly demographic statistics). Population growth rate was calculated as a difference between 1 January and 31 December (in 2001 population at 1 January was recalculated by Census).

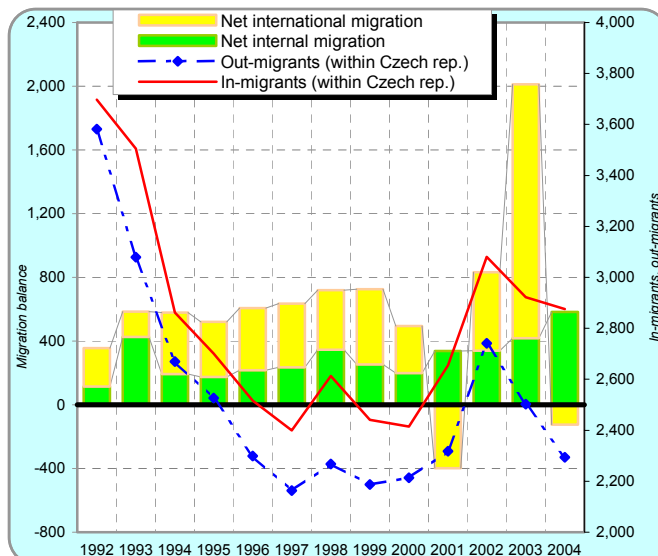
Share of population aged 65 and more (Census 2001)



Vital statistics



Migration balance - internal and international migration



Since 2001, foreigners who were granted long-term stays are calculated as migrants



Agriculture: 1993 - 2003

Indicator	1993	2003
Agricultural land (ha)	385,044	383,685
Arable land (ha)	272,969	264,621
Persons employed in agriculture, hunting and forestry (thous., LFS)	24.1	10.6
Yields of cereals (tonnes/ha)	3.56	3.51
Cattle stock, total (1 March)	241,560	165,118

Health care

Indicator	Region	CR
No. of physicians per 1000 population	4.2	3.9
No. of beds in hospitals per 1000 population	6.5	6.5
Infant mortality (average for 1999-2003, ‰)	4.4	4.2

Forests are the greatest natural resources (the third largest logging among the regions), followed by refractory and ceramics clay, building stone and limestone. The high share of agricultural land over half the area of the Region has a significant role to play. In some localities, however, the landscape was fairly devastated by mining.

The share of the *Plzeňský* Region in the national GDP (5%) is the seventh biggest in the ranking of the regions. The most important from this point of view is manufacturing (the third share in the regional GDP) followed by trade (12%), and transport and telecommunications (10%). The share of agriculture in the GDP is higher than the national average. Regional GDP per inhabitant is only a little above the national level —the second biggest in the CR—and 61% of the EU-15 level. The Region thus belongs to the most developed regions of the new member states of the EU.

Gross fixed capital formation per inhabitant accounts for 86% of the national average. The most significant investments were implemented in the energy industry, trade, agriculture, and hotels and restaurants.

Plzeň – a centre of education

The network of pre-school and school facilities consists of more than 200 nursery schools, about the same number of basic schools,

14 grammar schools, 34 secondary technical schools, and 28 secondary vocational schools. University education can be attained at the University of West Bohemia in Plzeň, which has 7 faculties, and University in Plzeň focused on health fields of study. What may be interesting as to the attitude to education is that the Region has the smallest proportion of new entrants to four-year grammar schools in the corresponding age population among the country's all regions. It is also the only region where the proportion of new entrants to multi-year grammar schools in the corresponding age population is higher than the proportion of new entrants to the four-year grammar schools.

The level of education in the *Plzeňský* Region reaches average values, as indicated by the last census results. According to the census, 23.1% of the population aged 15+ attained basic education (23.5% in the CR), 39.6% of the adult population attained secondary technical education (38.0% in the CR) and 28.2% of the po-

Pupils and students: school year 2003/2004

Type of school	Thous.
Nursery schools	15.0
Basic schools	49.8
Grammar schools	6.5
Secondary technical schools	9.9
Secondary vocational schools	10.3
Higher professional schools	1.0
Universities	13.7

pulation older than 15 had secondary education with GCSE (28.4% in the CR). With its proportion of university-educated people (7.8%), the Region falls slightly behind the nationwide level (8.9%). The index of education (population with full secondary and university education per 100 inhabitants over 25) is modestly below the average: 43.3 as against the nationwide 45.3. Of all the administrative territories, the administrative territory of *Plzeň* had the greatest index of education (54.6) exceeding the country's average. It is a logical consequence of the fact that Plzeň is a large administrative centre and a seat of universities as well. The other "most educated" administrative territories are those in large towns (*Klatovy*, *Rokycany*). The lowest values, a bit above 30 only, belong to the administrative territories of *Nepomuk*, *Horšovský Týn* and *Stod*.

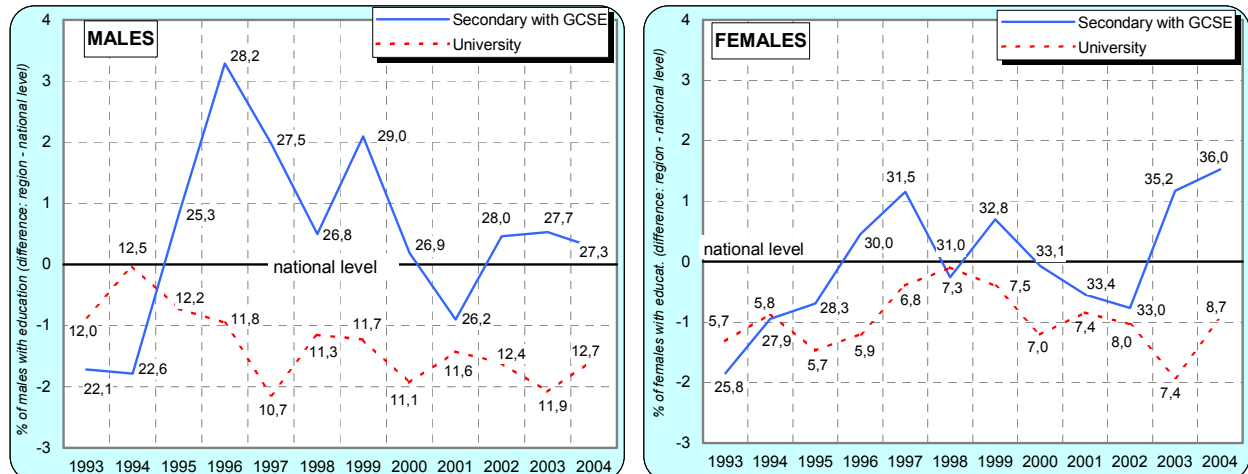
Stabilized health service and social care

The health establishment network of the Region includes 12 hospitals, 4 specialized therapeutical institutions, almost 300 surgeries of physicians for adults, over 150 surgeries of physicians for children and more than 300 surgeries of stomatologists. The number of physicians slightly increases in the course of time, so the number of persons per physician drops in consequence. Economic pressures on hospitals make both the number of hospital beds and that of the days of treatment in hospitals drop. The number of surgeries or consulting offices of various specialists is fast to increase. At the close of 2003, next to 70% of all the physicians in the Region worked for non-state health establishments, which was considerably less than in the neighbouring *Středočeský* and *Jihočeský* Regions. The Region reached its highest percentage of average incapacity for work in the year 2001 and this indicator has been rather on the decrease since.

The system of social care in the *Plzeňský* Region is implemented in 8 children's homes, 7 social care

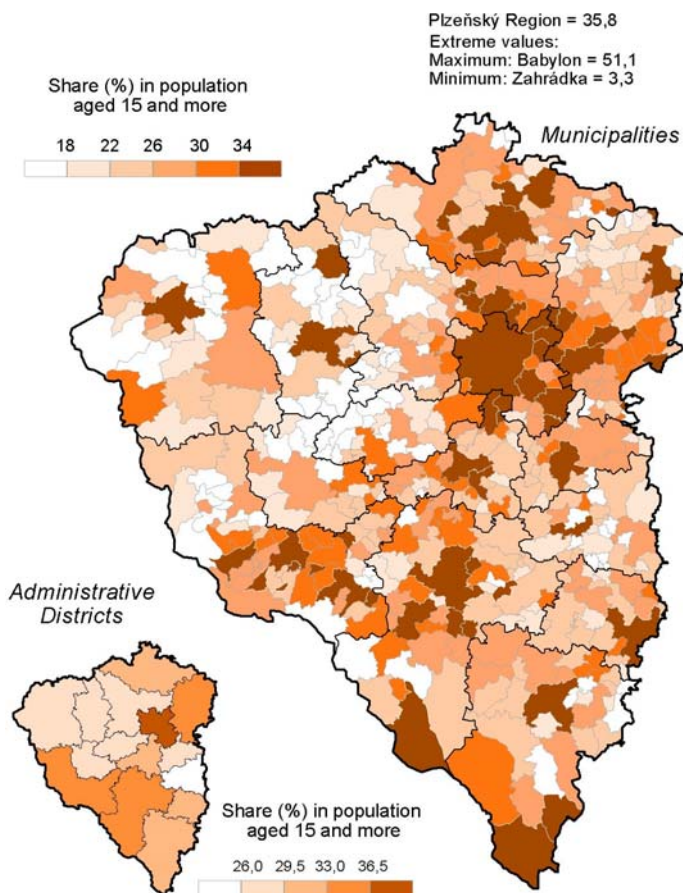


Share of males and females with secondary and university education - relation of region to the Czech Republic

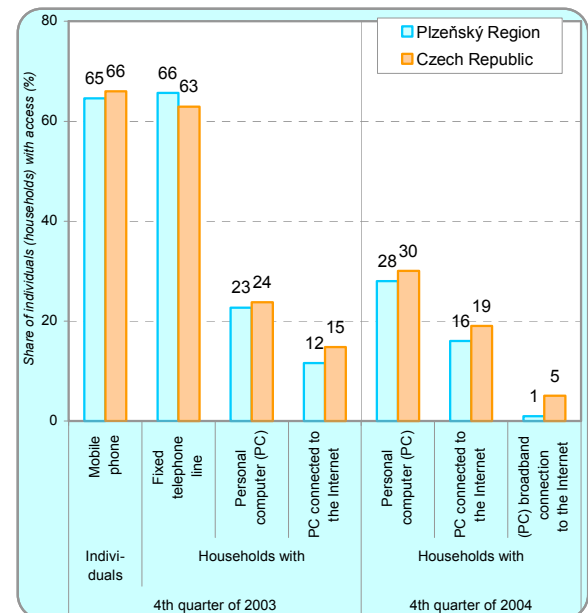


Note: Figures in graph express share of persons with secondary education with GCSE in total population aged 15+ in region, or share of persons with university education in total population aged 25+ in region

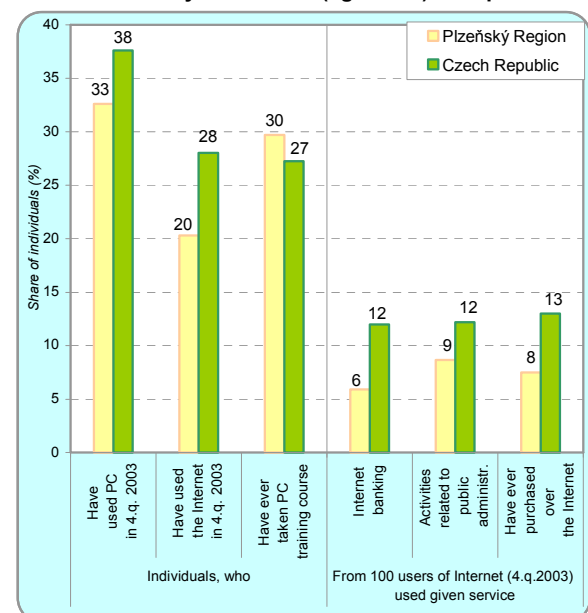
Share of persons with completed secondary or university education (Census 2001)



Access of households to information technologies



Use of Internet by individuals (aged 15+) in 4.q.2003





institutions for adults, 8 social care institutions for young people, 12 retirement homes, 10 boarding houses for pensioners and 60 community care service houses. Since the 1990s, the latter have been recording the highest rise in all of the establishments coming under the area of social care. The network of the other establishments is stabilized and does not change very much. The state social care support benefits have decreased in number recently, which was a result of more stringent regulations applied to the granting of the benefits from the state; certain benefits have been abolished, too.

Stagnation of employment in the tertiary sphere

The economic activity of the *Plzeňský* Region's population is assessed as modestly above the average under conditions of the Czech Republic. Only one of every five working-age inhabitants remains economically inactive. An above-average participation rate is found in both young people up to the age of 24 and preretirement-age inhabitants. The proportion of the economically active in total working-age population had been at the national level for tens of years, but in last decade it climbed over the average by almost one percentage point. Although the proportion of women in total economically active population has been growing for 40 years, it still fails to reach the average value for the whole of the Czech Republic.

The proportion of the employed in the primary sector is slightly above the average, namely due to higher employment in agriculture and forestry. Over ten years, though, the proportion dropped to nearly half its value recorded for the early 1990s. In the same period of time, employment in industry was almost constant because the increasing number of small industrial plants and firms managed to offset the diminishing of large enterprises. An above-average proportion of the employed could be observed in manufacture of fabricated metal products and manu-

Participation rate: by educational attainment, population aged 15+, %

Degree of education	Total		Men		Women	
	1993	2003	1993	2003	1993	2003
Basic and no education	33.1	22.4	40.5	30.8	29.9	18.2
Secondary without GCSE	69.7	67.9	76.8	75.7	59.6	57.0
Secondary with GCSE	76.0	68.6	79.6	71.0	73.2	66.8
University	79.6	75.3	80.5	75.9	78.0	74.4

Participation rate: by age group, %

Age group	Total		Men		Women	
	1993	2003	1993	2003	1993	2003
Total	62.2	59.6	71.7	68.1	53.4	51.5
15 - 19	38.9	9.5	45.6	13.1	32.0	5.8
20 - 24	74.5	58.8	87.1	64.5	61.3	52.9
25 - 29	82.2	82.5	97.0	94.6	66.4	70.2
30 - 34	91.8	85.4	99.1	97.3	84.3	72.8
35 - 39	95.9	92.8	96.4	97.5	95.3	87.8
40 - 44	96.7	93.3	97.8	96.6	95.5	90.0
45 - 49	94.4	93.7	94.9	94.9	93.9	92.6
50 - 54	84.2	91.8	90.3	92.9	78.2	90.7
55 - 59	45.8	62.4	70.2	82.4	23.1	43.3
60 - 64	15.2	19.1	19.5	25.4	11.4	13.4
65+	4.6	3.4	8.2	4.9	2.3	2.5

facture of electrical equipment. Employment in the tertiary sphere was growing, but not that fast as in most of the other regions. In services of mostly public nature (education, health, social care, etc.) it even tended to decrease slightly. Like in the *Moravskoslezský* Region, the proportion of people employed in hotels and restaurants is the smallest among the regions.

The relative number of the self-employed with employees is moderately below the average. Only third of them is under 35 years of age, and only 44% of these entrepreneurs completed full secondary or higher education.

Highest unemployment at the western border with Bavaria

The industrial structure of economic activities, nature of the landscape, vicinity of borders with Bavaria, "iron curtain", and historical development of industrialization can be regarded as key factors influencing the economy of the *Plzeňský* Region and in turn the labour market and unemployment.

The general and registered rates of unemployment rank the Region among areas with a low unemployment level. The unemployment in the middle of the Region is well

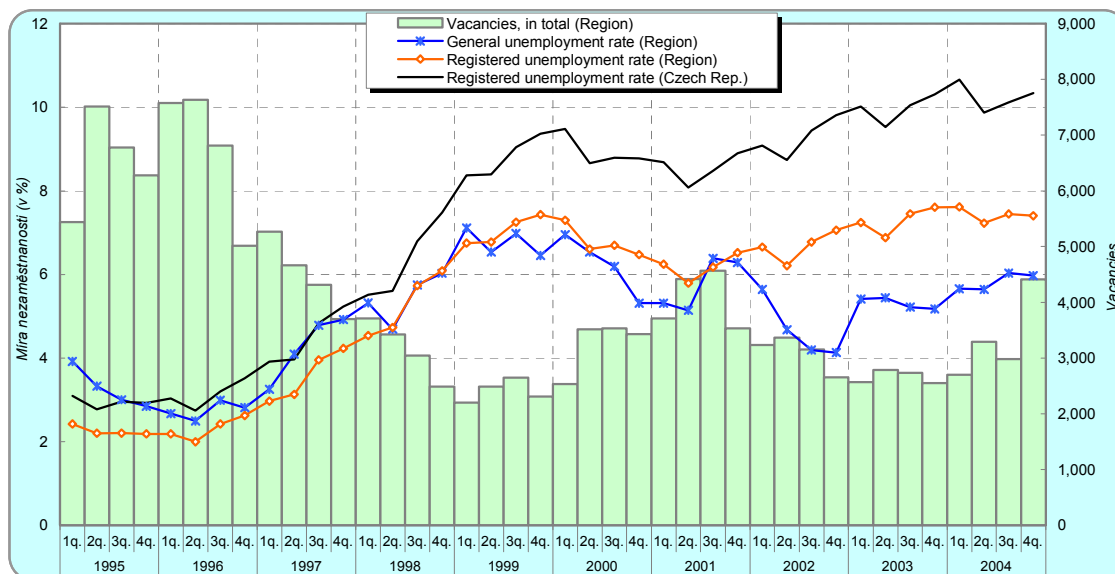
below the average in the whole of the Czech Republic. Areas in the western part of the Region (i.e. in the Bohemian-German border area) and in the southernmost point of the Region have unemployment twice the average. Of all unemployed job applicants, the proportion of the young unemployed is smaller than the average while that of females and persons with reduced capacity to work approaches the average. The number of job applicants per vacancy is a little bit higher than half of the average and tend to rise, which also applies to young unemployed people. In persons with reduced capacity to work this indicator has increased significantly since 2000, but even so it is still slightly half the national average for the time being. The number of vacancies has a falling tendency in all the categories. The relative number of the retrained is not yet reached the country's average. Only every fifth unemployed person older than 50 succeeds to find a new job.

A faster growth of income not ruled out

Disposable income as high as its average value for the whole of the Czech Republic falls on every

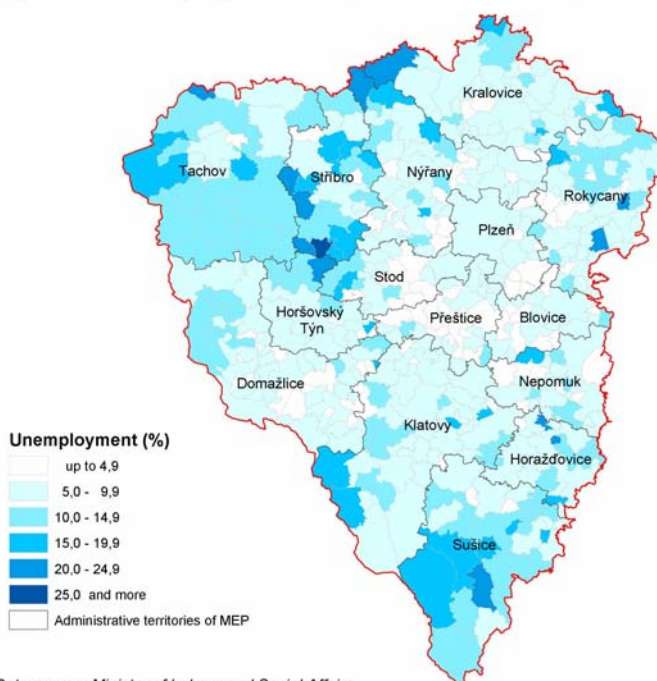


General unemployment rate (ILO), registered unemployment rate (employment offices), vacancies



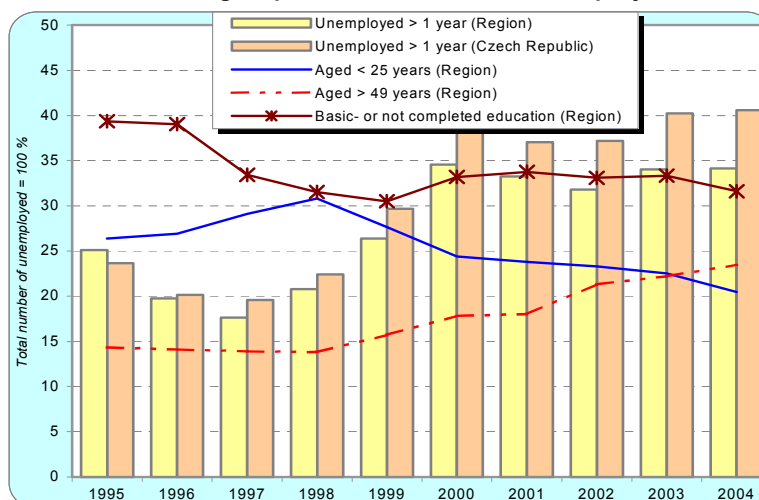
Note: Registered unemployment rate refers to the end of respective quarter

Registered unemployment rate (31 December 2004)



Data source: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Share of selected groups in total number of unemployed*



* refers to 31 December (respective year)



Structure of disposable income of households

		1995		2002	
		CZK million	Per capita (national level=100)	CZK million	Per capita (national level=100)
		Allocation of primary income account of households			
Resources	Operating surplus and mixed income, net	11,991	100,2	17,631	97,1
	Compensation of employees	35,247	103,1	55,027	96,5
	Property income	3,841	97,6	4,414	98,9
Uses	Property income	1,275	95,8	1,246	95,7
	Balance of primary income, net	49,803	102,1	75,827	96,8
		Secondary distribution of income account of households			
Resource	Social benefits other than social benefits in kind	8,536	99,5	16,728	99,3
	Other current transfers	2,927	103,1	4,648	105,6
Uses	Current taxes on income, wealth, etc.	3,811	99,1	5,947	96,3
	Social contributions	11,993	101,9	19,722	96,3
	Other current transfers	2,044	102,4	4,602	103,1
	Disposable income, net	43,419	102,0	66,932	97,7

citizens who resides in the *Plzeňský* Region. In the regional ranking, the Region follows tightly the *Středočeský* Region (the second) to assume its position after the *Hl. m. Praha* Region. When ranked by the level of average wage, the Region remains the third, replacing the *Moravskoslezský* Region. The average wage of the *Plzeňský* Region reached CZK 16 351 (about € 520) in 2003. Although the average wage growth rate lags behind the one in the whole country, it is higher than in the other regions except for the *Praha* and *Středočeský* Regions.

When compared to national average hourly wages, average hourly wages in the major groups of occupations in the Region indicate that especially professionals (scientific and research intellectual workers) do not to reach the national wage level of their group. This also applies to university graduates as one of the education groups. There is no age group in the Region discriminated in favour of wages at the expense of the other groups. As for average monthly wages paid in the *Plzeňský* Region's industries, those in the construction and non-market services are the second highest among the CR¹ regions.

The Region has the third lowest proportion of social incomes in gross incomes and the second greatest proportion of households with incomes higher than 1.5 times the subsistence level (90%).

Engineering on the decrease, electronics on the increase

The Region has the second lowest population density. Most of services rendered in the Region are concentrated in the regional capital and a high proportion of the population travels there to get them. This influences the economic structure to a large degree.

Arable land occupies more than a third of the Region's area and woodland accounts for even a higher percentage. The volume of logging is the second largest. The proportion of gross value added by agriculture and forestry is moderately above the national average; it is about 7% of the Region's GVA and is produced by approximately 6% of the employed.

The industry employs every third economically active inhabitant and accounts for almost 40% of total gross value added in the Region. Its development—especially of engineering—led to a marked growth

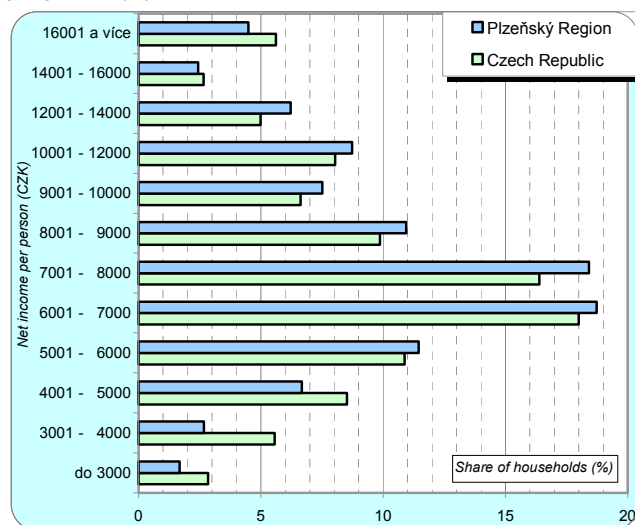
of the Region's significance, but also, recently, to sizeable changes in the structure of employment resulting from the transformation process. Almost one third of all industrial enterprises can be found in the regional metropolis of *Plzeň*. The best known include *Škoda* engineering works, *Plzeňský Prazdroj* brewery, *Stock Plzeň* distillery, and *Bohemia Sekt* manufacture at *Starý Plzenec*. The economy of the Region is influenced by ceramics factories at *Chlumčany*, *Horní Bříza* and elsewhere. New industries have emerged recently (manufacture of TV sets, electrical devices and equipment, etc.) as a result of diversification and with the help of foreign investment. Exports from the *Plzeňský* Region mainly consist of machinery and transport equipment followed by manufactured goods in which the Region has the highest share in total exports from the country. Almost 90% of goods produced in the Region are exported to the EU, of which moderately above 70% goes to Germany. This ranks the Region second in total exports of the country.

A bridge to West Europe

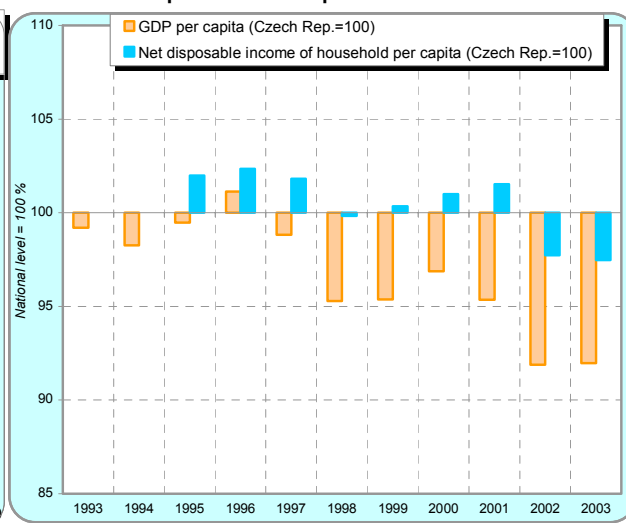
Thanks to its location at the border with Bavaria, the *Plzeňský* Region has occupied a special position in the transport network of Bohemia for centuries, constituting a bridge to West Europe. It played this role even in the second half of the 20th century despite the very limited, decades-taking contacts between the countries on both sides of the Iron Curtain. After the revival of relations with the EU 15 and especially after the accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union, the significance of the Region's roads and motorways for international connection increased considerably. This was also one of the cogent arguments to support construction of the motorway D5 from Prague to *Plzeň* and further to Bavaria and its connection to the system of German motorways. Subsequent to several-year delays due to disputes about the impact on the environment, the



Distribution of households (%): monthly net money income per person (%), in CZK, Microcensus 2002

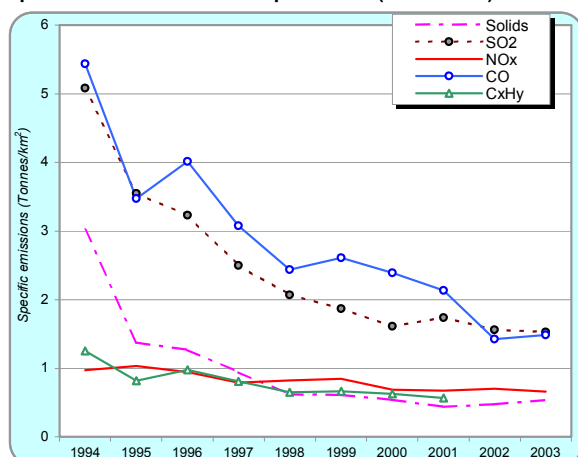


Gross domestic product and disposable income

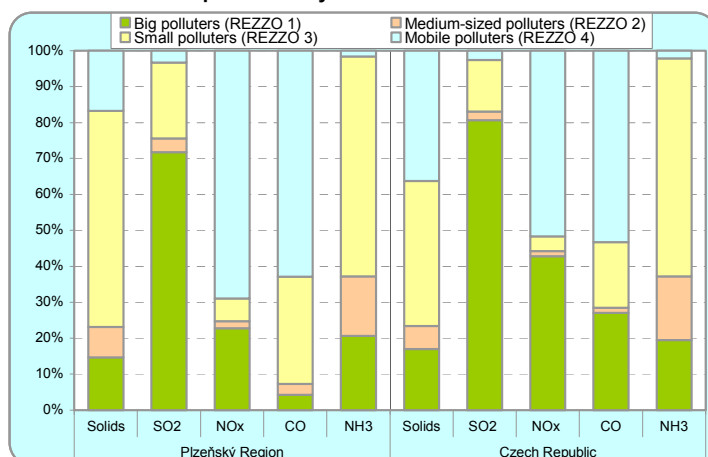


Note: Data on disposable income are available since 1995

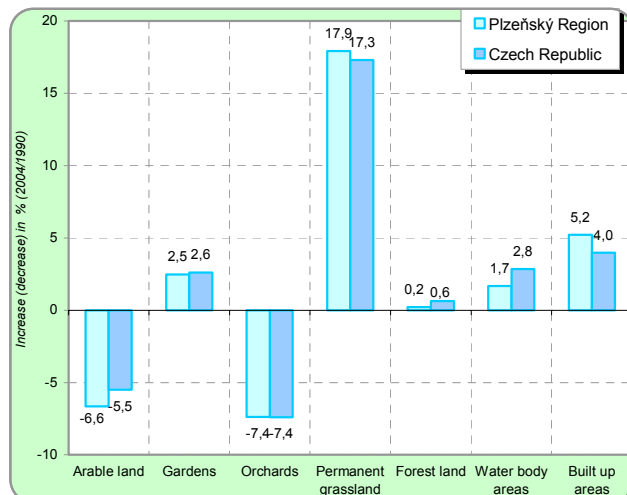
Specific emissions of main pollutants (REZZO 1-3)



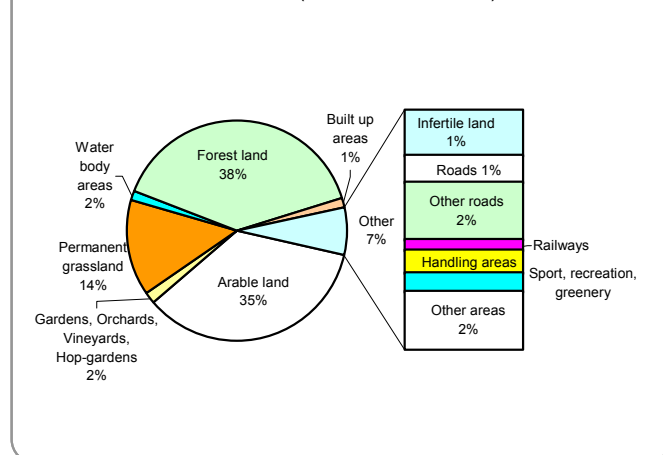
Structure of main pollutants by sources in 2003



Land use - changes between 1990 and 2004 (31 December)



Land use structure (2004, 31 December)





Tourism: 1996 - 2003

Indicator	1996	2003
Guests in accommodation establishments	454,898	495,664
From the CR	313,673	335,330
From abroad	141,225	160,334
Number of overnight stays	1,458,010	1,665,553
CR nationals	1,088,698	1,187,340
Foreign nationals	369,312	478,213
Average length of stay (days)	4.2	4.4

construction has been resumed to finalize the last section of the motorway—the bypass of *Plzeň*, the Region's capital, where the heavy traffic passing through the town adversely affects the living conditions very much.

The road network of the *Plzeňský* Region accounts for 9% of the length of the country's network of motorway and roads. Its density is slightly below the average, the relative length of roads per thousand inhabitants is the third highest, as is the length of roads per thousand registered passenger cars. The total burden of the roads (in terms performed-kilometres per 1 km of roads) is relatively small—about 80% of the national level. Total motorization (all road motor vehicles) is the highest in the country (second highest in passenger cars—400 cars per thousand inhabitants. The proportion of road accidents per thousand inhabitants has been the highest for a long time; the proportion of casualties and the number of accidents (accident density) per km are above the country's average, too.

The operating length of the Region's railway lines is 718 km—7% of the total railway network length of the CR—of which a third is electrified. Five national railway lines pass through *Plzeň*, with busy international traffic on some of them (the Prague–Nuremberg line in particular). Ten regional railway lines (10) run through the Region, too.

Significance of tourists from Germany

There are rather good conditions for tourism in the *Plzeňský* Re-

gion. The town of *Plzeň* itself has a number of sights (the underground spaces under the centre, castles, etc.), which also include baroque *Manětín* Castle, *Plasy* Convent, remnants of gothic *Radyně* and *Buben* Castles, remnants of *Rabštejn nad Střelou* Castle, renaissance *Horšovský Týn* Castle, *Švihov* Water Castle, *Kozel*, *Nebílovy* and *Lužany* Castles, *Kladruby* Monastery, *Kašperk*, *Rábí* and *Velhartice* Castles and many others. The town of *Domažlice* attracts attention of many visitors. *Šumava* (Mountains), which is both a protected landscape area (*CHKO*) and a national park, offers excellent conditions for summer and winter recreation. *Konstantinovy Lázně* (Spa) provides curative stays. Other areas with a preserved natural environment in the Region's territory include *Brdská vrchovina* (Highland), *CHKO Český les* (Bohemian Forest), and *CHKO Křivoklátsko*.

Domestic tourists prevail among guests in tourist facilities. Most foreign visitors come from Germany, but quite a lot of Poles and Dutchmen come to see the Region, too. The average stay in accommodation establishments has been slightly getting shorter recently. Domestic tourists stay a bit longer in accommodation establishments (by about 0.5 days). Of great importance is also same-day tourism of German-speaking guests in border areas, which has not yet been covered statistically, though.

An increase in the number of unoccupied houses

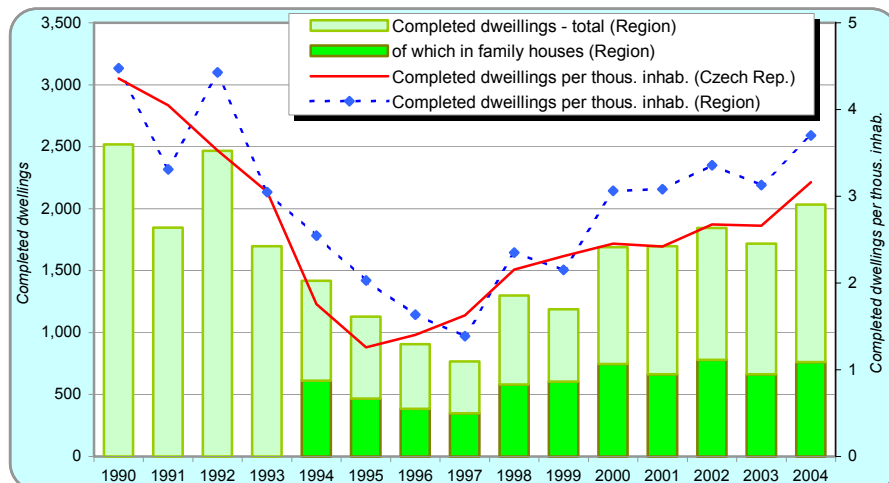
According to the last census (2001), the *Plzeňský* Region's housing stock consisted of 88.3%

of family houses, 9.6% of multi-dwelling buildings, and 2.1% of buildings of different kind. 20.6% of houses were permanently unoccupied. Their number increased by 40% between 1991 and 2001, which was the third fastest growth rate next to *Hl. m Praha* and *Jihočeský* Regions. Nearly 250 thousand dwellings formed the dwelling stock of the Region. Of these, 53% and 46.1% of dwellings were in multi-dwelling buildings and family houses, respectively.

The number of completed dwellings dropped significantly in the first half of the 1990s. The year 1997 saw the building activities start to revive and this went on until 2002. In 2002, the number of completed dwellings increased by more than 120% compared to 1997. In 2003, however, a drop in the number of completed dwellings was recorded. Of the total number of completed dwellings, dwellings in family houses prevailed (about 39%) followed by dwellings in multi-dwelling buildings (about 18%) and in extensions (roughly 11%). The most intensive housing construction was seen in the district of *Plzeň-jih* where about 5 new dwellings were completed per 1 000 inhabitants.

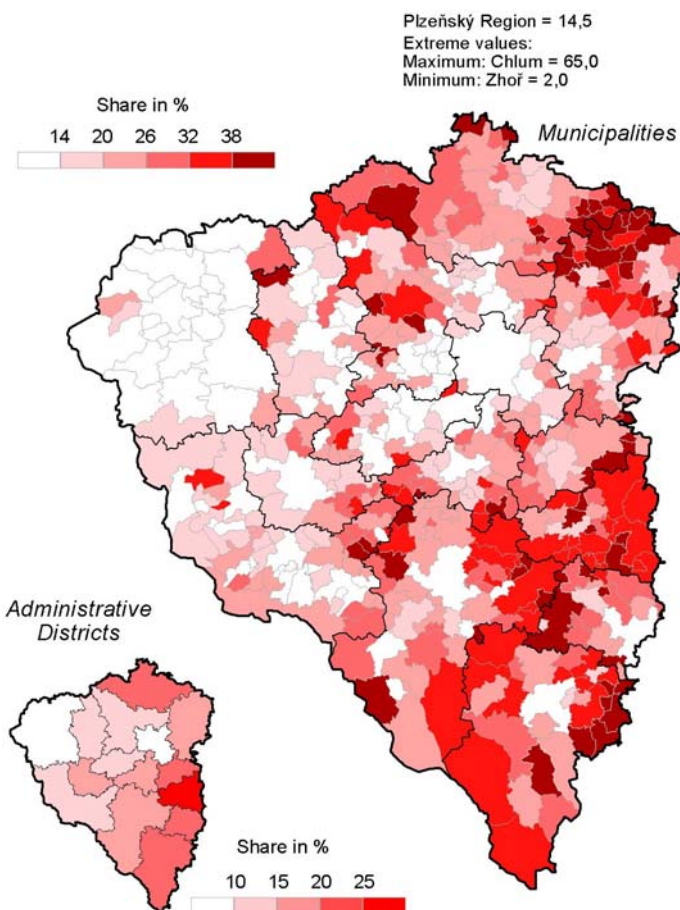


Completed dwellings - in all buildings / in family houses

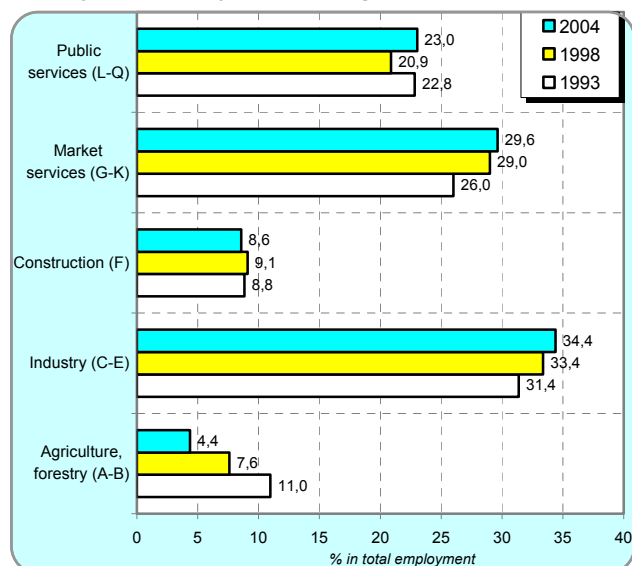


Note: data on dwellings in family houses are available since 1995

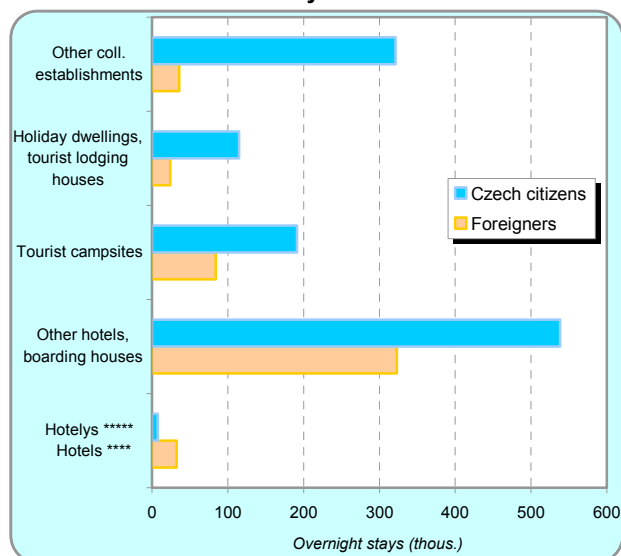
Share of unoccupied dwellings in total dwelling stock (Census 2001)



Employment in major sectors (groups of NACE)

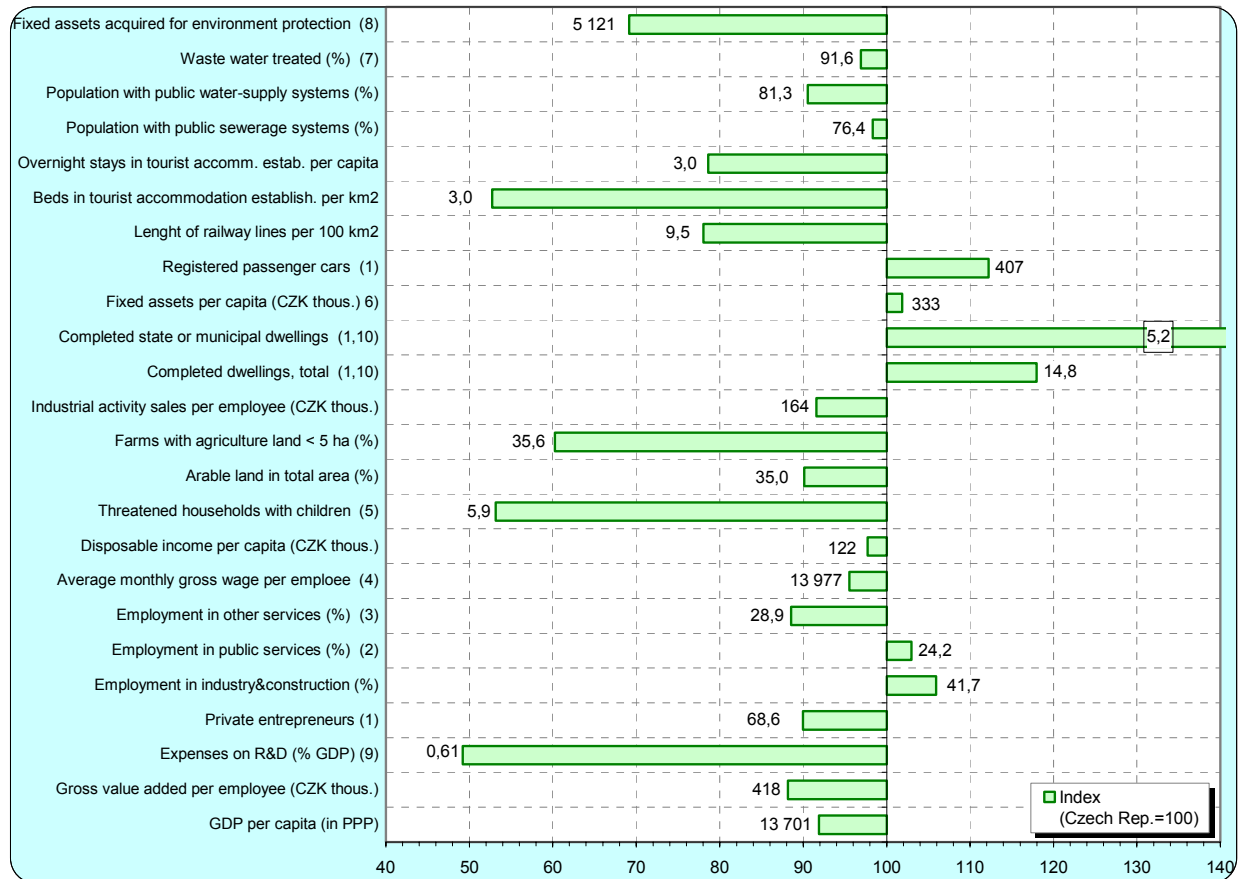


Overnight stays in collective tourist accommodation establishments in 2004 - by class





Economy and environment - region compared with the Czech Republic



1) Per 1000 inhabitants

2) NACE L-O (Public administration and defence;Compulsory social security, Education, Health and social work, Other community, social and personal service activities)

3) NACE G-K, resp.P-Q (Wholesale and retail trade, Transport, storage and communications, Financial intermediation, Real estate, renting and business activities)

4) Work-place method (in 2001, CZK)

5) Share of families with children registered by social care authorities ("social needed persons") in total number of families with children (% , 2001)

6) Enterprise head-office method (i.e. seat of business), sum for period 1995-2001

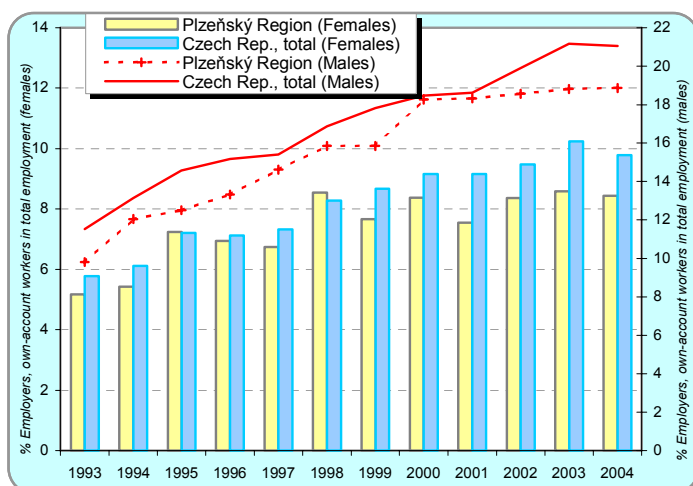
7) Related to total waste water discharged into public sewerage systems (=100%)

8) Work-place method (i.e. real place of realization), sum for period 2000-2003 (CZK, per capita)

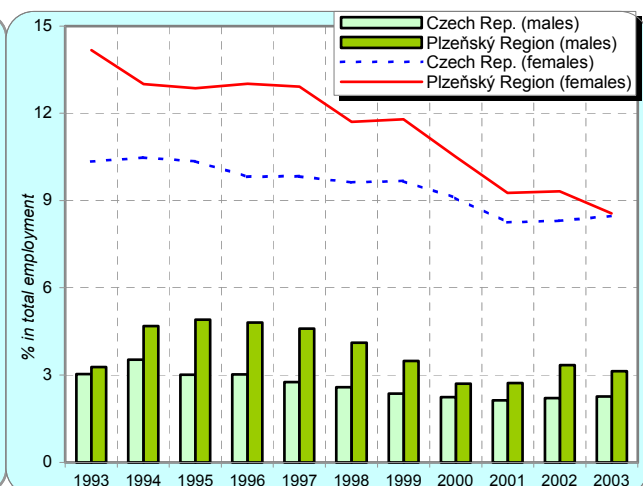
9) Average for period 2001-2003

10) Sum for period 1999-2003

Employers and own-account workers - males, females



Part-time employment - males, females





Position of region among system of european NUTS-3 regions (rank: 1 = highest value)

Indicator			Position among NUTS-3 regions in given territory (number of NUTS-3 units)					
			Region (Plzeňský)	Czech Republic (CR)	NUTS-3 regions adjoining CR	EU -10 New states	EU-15 Former states	EU-25 total
			(1)	(14)	(27+14) ¹	(123) ²	(1 091+14) ²	(1 214) ²
1	Population density (2002)	Value	72.7	129.4	126.2	100.8	120.3	116.6
		Rank	x	13 / 14	37 / 41	82 / 117	843 / 1105	912 / 1208
2	Total population increase (1995-2002) ³	Value	-1.7	-1.8	-4.0	-1.4	2.7	2.0
		Rank	x	9 / 14	22 / 40	65 / 117	787 / 1078	843 / 1181
3	Natural population increase (1995-2001) ³	Value	-2.6	-2.0	-0.9	-0.7	0.9	0.6
		Rank	x	12 / 14	26 / 40	84 / 111	824 / 1078	896 / 1175
4	Migration population increase (1995-2001) ^{3,4}	Value	0.9	0.1	-1.6	-0.7	1.9	1.4
		Rank	x	2 / 14	11 / 40	32 / 111	655 / 1078	685 / 1175
5	GDP per capita (2002), in Purchasing Power Parity	Value	13 153	14,315	10,912	10,966	23,164	21,172
		Rank	x	3 / 14	16 / 40	22 / 121	998 / 1101	1017 / 1208
6	GDP per capita (1995), in Purchasing Power Parity	Value	10,604	10,660	7,882	7,118	16,869	15,233
		Rank	x	2 / 14	14 / 40	8 / 115	922 / 1076	928 / 1177
7	Share of economically active in total population (% , 2002)	Value	50.9	50.0	45.3	45.5	46.8	46.6
		Rank	x	3 / 14	10 / 41	14 / 123	168 / 986	179 / 1095
8	Sh.of economically active women in total women pop. (% , 2001)	Value	43.6	43.4	39.8	40.5	39.2	39.4
		Rank	x	4 / 14	9 / 28	28 / 114	144 / 585	168 / 685
9	Employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing (% , 2001)	Value	6.3	4.8	12.1	17.0	4.0	6.0
		Rank	x	6 / 14	18 / 40	81 / 113	341 / 1063	416 / 1162
10	Employment in industry and construction (% , 2001)	Value	42.6	40.1	36.2	30.5	25.9	26.6
		Rank	x	8 / 14	14 / 40	20 / 113	69 / 1063	81 / 1162
11	Employment in services (% , 2001)	Value	51.0	55.2	51.8	52.5	70.1	67.3
		Rank	x	8 / 14	27 / 40	55 / 113	972 / 1063	1019 / 1162
12	Unemployment rate, total, based LFS (% , 2003)	Value	5.3	7.8	18.0	14.5	8.1	9.1
		Rank	x	10 / 14	28 / 40	104 / 123	587 / 991	672 / 1100
13	Unemployment rate, women, based LFS (% , 2003)	Value	6.2	9.9	16.7	15.3	8.9	10.0
		Rank	x	13 / 14	21 / 28	104 / 123	310 / 591	395 / 700
14	Unemployment rate, persons up to 25 years, LFS (% , 2003)	Value	13.7	18.6	26.7	32.3	15.8	18.4
		Rank	x	11 / 14	18 / 28	98 / 123	234 / 494	318 / 603
15	Bed in hotels and similar establishments per capita (2002)	Value	22.1	24.1	15.2	10.5	26.1	23.6
		Rank	x	6 / 14	18 / 41	14 / 118	383 / 1105	391 / 1209

¹ Missing data of regions:

2 NUTS-3 regions in Silesia (all indicators apart from no. 1,7,15) were replaced by figure for whole Silesia region (NUTS-2)

17 NUTS-3 regions in Germany (indicators no. 8,13,14) were replaced by 5 respective NUTS-2 regions

Different date : indicators no. 2 and 3 (all regions refer to 1997-99), indicators no. 12-14 (all regions refer to 2001),

indicator no. 7 (all regions in Germany refer to 2001)

² Missing data of regions:

Germany - 439 regions (indicators no. 8,13 and 14), France - 100 regions (indicator no. 14)

Greece - 51 regions (indicators no. 7,8,12,13 and 14), Netherlands - 40 regions (indicators no. 9,10 and 11)

Portugal - 30 regions (indicators no. 2-4, 6-8 and 12-14), Estonia - 4 regions (indicator no. 15) and Latvia - 4 regions (indicator no. 1)

Different date : all regions in Germany - indicators no. 2 and 3 (1995-1999), indicator no. 12 (2001)

all regions in Great Britain - indicators no. 7,12,13 and 14 (2001)

all regions in Portugal, Cyprus and Luxembourg - indicators no. 9,10 and 11 (2000)

all regions in Slovakia - indicator no. 15 (2003), and all regions in Scotland - indicator no. 15 (2000)

all regions in Latvia - indicator no. 8 (2002)

³ Expressed as an average of yearly-increases (as a difference between mid-year population)

⁴ Migration increase is calculated as a difference between total increase and natural increase

Source: DB Regio, Eurostat

Note: Some figures (for CR and its regions) may differ (mainly due to revisions) from those stated in the previous part of this chapter.

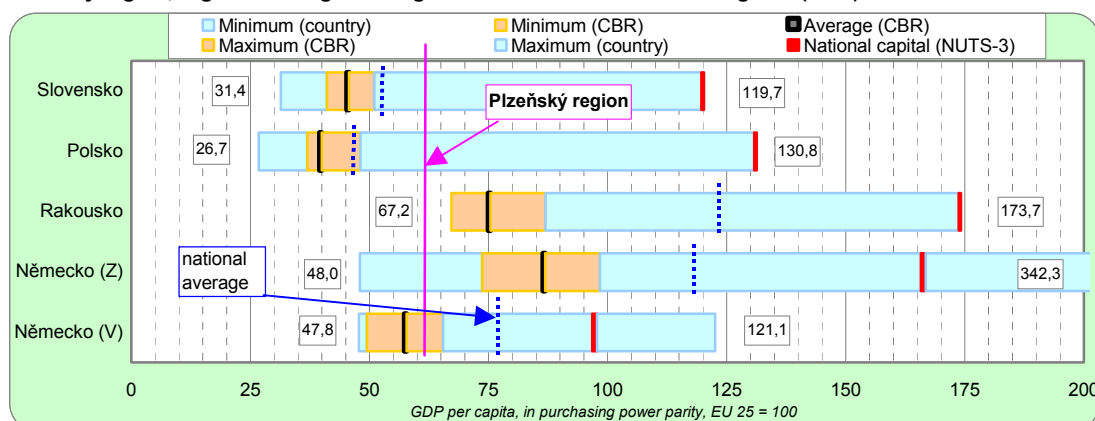
Source: DB Regio, Eurostat

Note: Some figures (for CR and its regions) may differ (mainly due to revisions) from those stated in the previous part of this chapter.

This table tries to describe region in a wider international context, indicators were selected to cover maximum of EU regions (in given time)

GDP (in Purchasing Power Parity) per capita in specific groups of NUTS-3 regions in 2002:

Plzeňský region, regions in neighbouring countries and cross-border regions (CBR)¹



¹ Cross-border regions include all NUTS-3 regions adjoining to the Czech Republic