

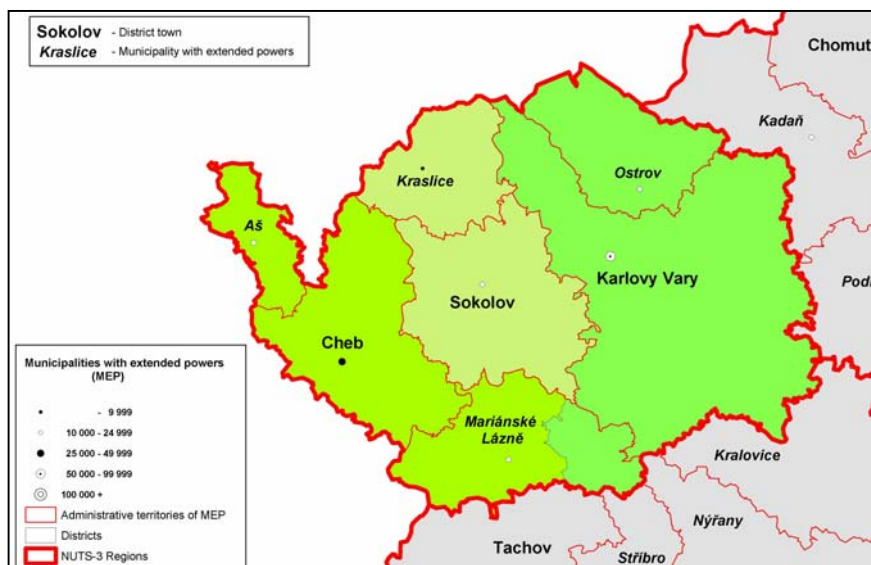


KARLOVARSKÝ REGION



With its mixed ethnicities and roots dating back to the Middle Ages, the *Karlovarský* Region is a representative of the Czech borderland. After the historical boom of non-iron ore mining faded out and the industrial revolution came, the Region diversified into a number of industries such as glass and ceramics making, textile production, engineering, and kaolin and lignite mining. Before World War II, these activities were expanded by a wider use of mineral water springs accompanied by the development of balneology. Today, some of the balneological centres of that time do not exist any longer (*Kyselka, Prameny, Velichov*, etc.). The oldest and largest remained, however, and in nationwide awareness they are still a dominant of the Region (*Karlovy Vary, Mariánské lázně, Františkovy lázně, Jáchymov*).

The *Karlovarský* Region is the westernmost and the third smallest region of the Czech Republic. It borders on German Bavarian regions



(NUTS 2) Upper Palatinate and Upper Franconia in the west and Saxony in the north. These borders make up over half the total border length of the Region. The *Ústecký* and *Plzeňský* Regions are the Karlovarský Region's eastern and southern neighbours, respectively. The Region is one of the Czech regions whose shortest connection to Prague crosses two other regions (*Plzeňský* or *Ústecký* and *Středočeský*). It covers 3 314 km², 4% of the total area of the Czech Republic. Its 1 428 km² of woodland translates into 43% afforestation, almost 1.3 times the CR's average, which is the second largest afforestation in the CR's regions (second to the *Liberecký* Region). It is also the only region whose area of agricultural land is smaller than that of woodland. The percentage of arable land does not even reach half of the CR's average percentage and is the smallest of all regions of the

CR (less than 18% of total area).

The *Karlovarský* Region is composed of three districts (*Cheb, Karlovy Vary* and *Sokolov*). It has 132 municipalities with an average area of 25.1 km² and an average population of 2 305. The numbers of municipalities and of districts are the smallest of all the regions. The town of *Karlovy Vary* is the Region's capital. It is the largest municipality where 17% of the population live. Municipalities with up to 500 inhabitants, where 5% of the population live, account for 46%. About 14% and 44% of the population live in municipalities with up to 2 000 and to 10 000 inhabitants, respectively.

There 7 administrative territories of municipalities with extended powers in the Region, whose areas ranges from 140 km² to 1 200 km² and the population from 14 thousand to 90 thousand.

Selection of topical indicators

Number of inhabitants (31.12.2004)		304,588	Average monthly gross wage (2004) ⁴		15,415
incl.	Foreigners with long-term stay ¹	5,897	Unemployment rate based on LFS (%; 2004)		9.4
	Foreigners with permanent residence	8,828	Employment in sectors (%; 2004)	Primary	2.9
Number of municipalities / towns (31.12.2004)		132 / 28		Secondary	43.1
Population living in the regional capital (%)		16.9		Tertiary	54.0
Live-born children outside marriage (%; 2004)		47.6	Completed dwellings, total (2004)		503
Population with university education ² (2004)	males	7.6	incl. Dwellings in family houses (%)		50.5
	females	5.7	Guests in accommodation establishments, total (2004)		564,543
Economically active population (2004)		157,579	incl. Foreign nationals (%)		68.5
incl. Employers or own-account workers (%)		14.9	GDP per capita (Purchasing power parity, 2003)		12,716
			Gross fixed capital formation per capita (in CZK, 2003)		50,986
Economic activity rate (2004) ³	males	70.6	Net disposable income of households per capita (CZK, 2003)		113,592
	females	53.0			

¹ Foreigners with visas over 90 days

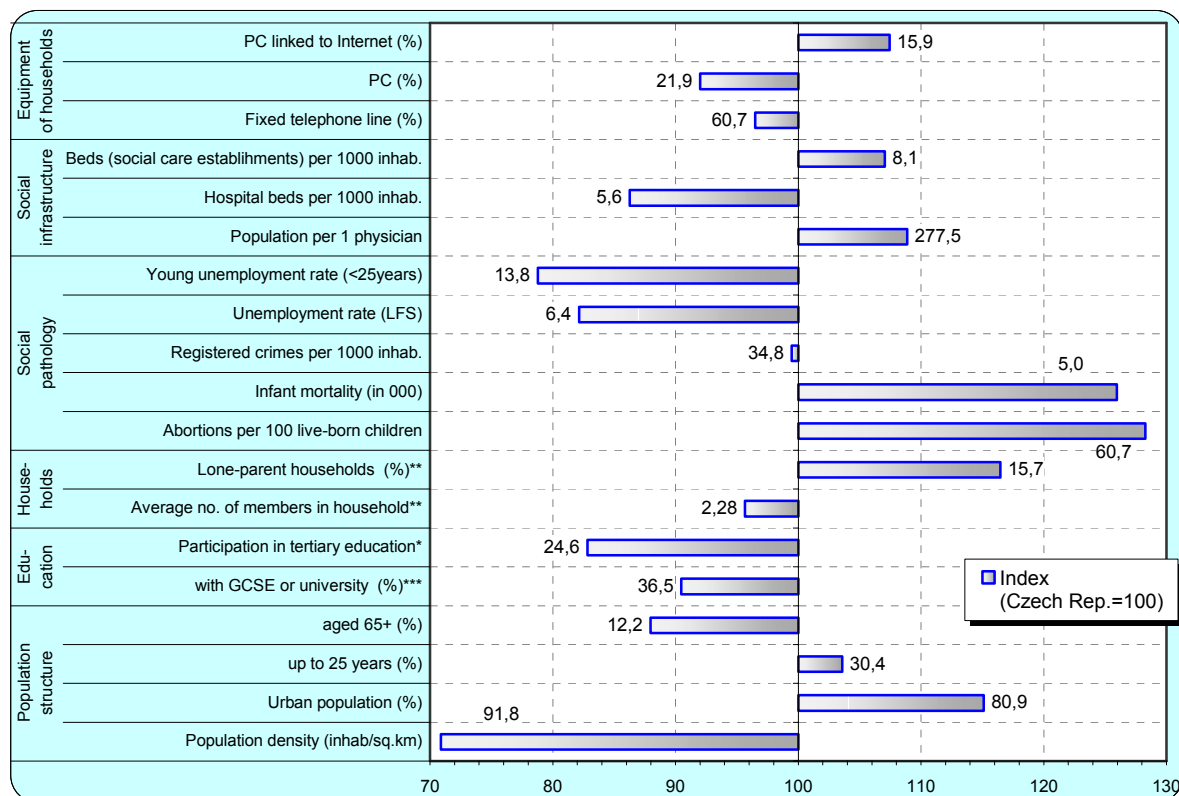
² Related to population aged 15+

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



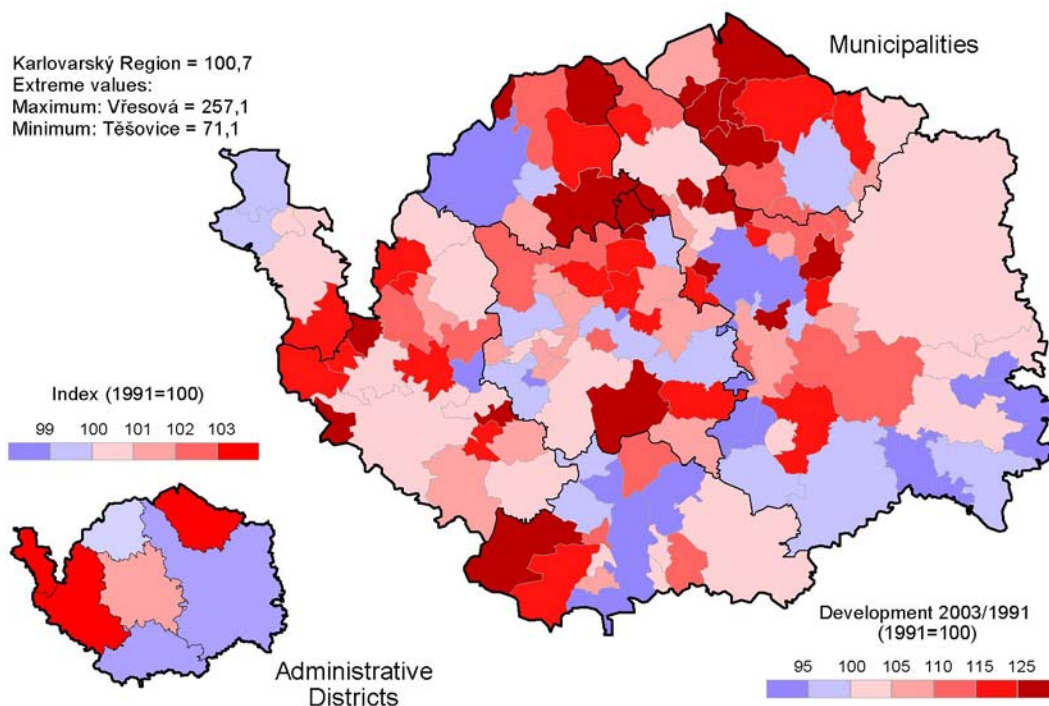
Note. Figures in graph (beside bars) express value of indicator (in region), x-axis relation of this value to national level.

* 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



**Population and vital statistics:1993/2003**

Population, 31 December 1993	304,733
Live births (average for 1994-1998)	2,996
Deaths (average for 1994-1998)	3,001
Net migration (average for 1994-1998)	25
Population, 31 December 1998	304,831
Live births (average for 1999-2003)	2,887
Deaths (average for 1999-2003)	2,989
Net migration (average for 1999-2003)	-21
Population, 31 December 2003	304,249

Age distribution of the population: 31 December 2003

Age	Total	Total	Men	Women
	Thous.	%	%	%
0 - 14	48.4	15.9	16.8	15.1
15 - 24	42.9	14.1	14.7	13.6
25 - 39	71.5	23.5	24.3	22.7
40 - 54	66.2	21.8	22.3	21.2
55 - 64	37.7	12.4	12.0	12.8
65 -	37.5	12.3	9.9	14.6
Total	304.2	100.0	100.0	100.0

The Region is well known for its traditional production industries: porcelain, glass, musical instruments, manufacture of textile and clothing. It has large mineral resources, many natural curative resources, a high concentration of health resorts and centres of tourism, and no large industrial zones. It participates in a number of common cross-border projects Euregio Egrensis. The age structure of the population is favourable, but the proportion of its low skilled labour is high. Despite being close to the German motorway network, it has no direct motorway connection with it.

A small proportion of the oldest

After seven years of annual declines in the population, the number of inhabitants increased in the Karlovarský Region again in the

year 2002. This trend continued in the year 2003 too. The age distribution of the population is characterized by a low representation of population aged 65+ and a high proportion of children aged 0-14. The proportion of the latter in the year 2003 was 15.9% and though decreasing it placed the Region among the country's regions with the highest proportion of this population component. On the other hand, the Region's proportion of the population aged 65+ is the lowest of all the other regions. While the dependency ratio, which is the number of persons aged 65+ per 100 children aged 0-14, is on the increase, it is far from reaching the country's value (CR – 91.6, Region – 77.5). The index of economic burden (the number of person aged 0-14 + persons aged 65+ per 100 persons aged 15-64) slightly decreases in the

Region and is lower than in the whole of the CR.

The Region invariably occupies the first place in the number of children born per 1 000 population. It still maintains its birth rate above the nationwide average, but the difference becomes smaller with time. The number of extra-marital births is very high: as high as 39.2% of all live births in the year 2003. Abortions drops in number year by year. The year 2003 saw only 59% of the abortions recorded in the year 1993. The Region's crude death rate is the last item of the country's ranking of regions. In the year 2002, the natural increase in the population was even positive. While the Region was losing its population due to migration in 2000 and 2001, it has been recording positive migration since 2002. The number of marriages is on the decrease, which reflects in the rising number of extramarital births. While the Region's divorce rate is steadily above the national average during the 90s, it did drop there as distinguished from most of the regions of the country where the rate grew.

Symbiosis of balneology and coal mining

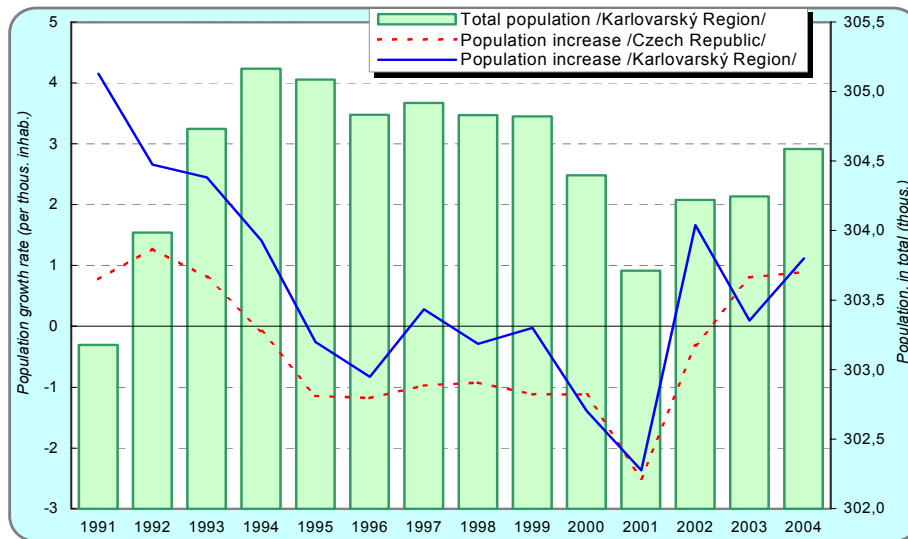
The Karlovarský Region has a specific character which differs it from all the other regions. It has the second smallest area, fewest inhabitants, the second largest woodland, the smallest proportion of arable land and no small and heterogeneous natural resources such as mineral and curative waters, lignite deposits easy to access, already small deposits of metal ores and uraninite, and deposits of kaolin and ceramic clays. All this has exercised a principal influ-

Significant employers: by head office of enterprise, 2003

Name	Head Office	Activity	No. of workers
Sokolovská uhelná, a.s.	Sokolov	Coal mining	> 5 000
Karlovarský porcelán, a.s.	Karlovy Vary	Manufacture of porcelain products	> 1 500
WITTE Nejdek, s.r.o.	Nejdek	Manufacture of fabricated metal products	> 1 000
AMATI - Denak, s.r.o.	Kraslice	Manufacture of musical instruments	> 500
Eastman Sokolov, a.s.	Sokolov	Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	> 500
GR electronic, s.r.o.	Hranice	Manufacture of parts and accessories for motor vehicles	> 500
Imperial Karlovy Vary, a.s.	Karlovy Vary	Health care	> 500
Léčebné lázně Mariánské Lázně, a.s.	Mariánské Lázně	Health care	> 500
Nemocnice Karlovy Vary	Karlovy Vary	Health care	> 500
Nemocnice v Chebu	Cheb	Health care	> 500

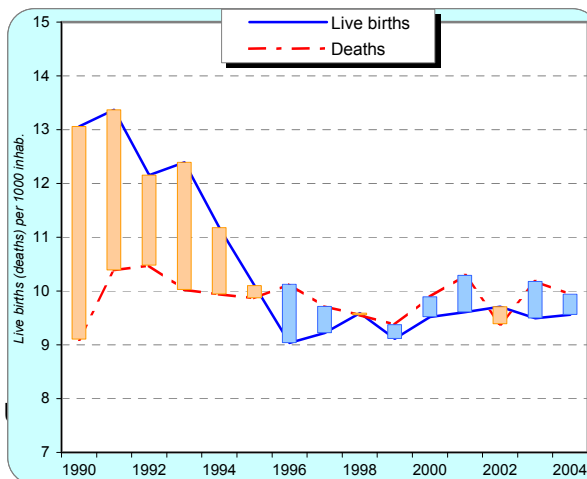


Total population - development in region and CR (31 Decemeber)

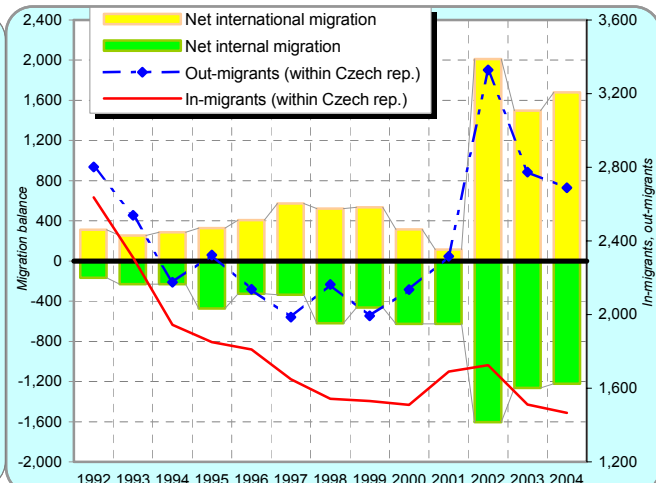


Data since 2001 reflect the Housing and Population Census (1.3.2001) results and also include foreigners who were granted long-term stays (i.e. foreigners with visas over 90 days). Population decrease 2001 was influenced mainly by Census (1.3.2001), which found out lower population than that registered 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).

Vital statistics



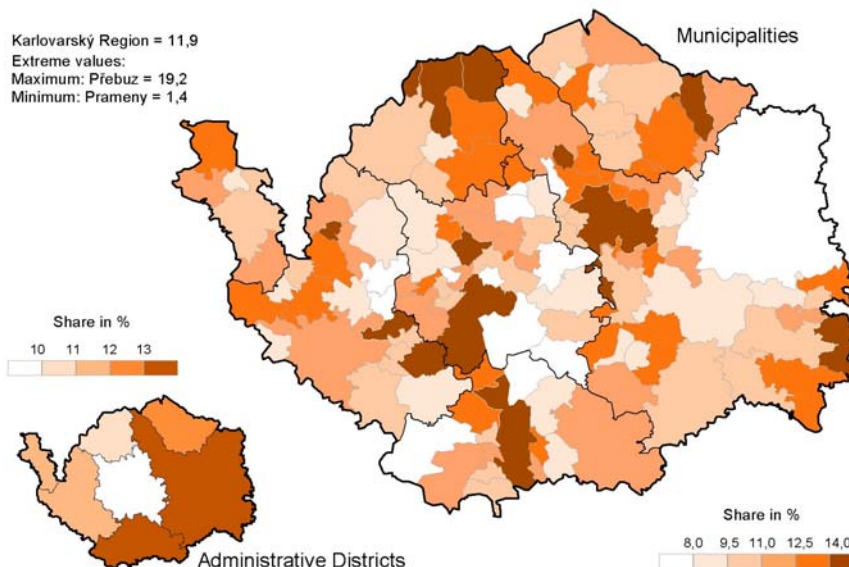
Migration balance - internal and international migration



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

Share of population aged 65 and more (Census 2001)

Karlovarský Region = 11,9
Extreme values:
Maximum: Přebuz = 19,2
Minimum: Prameny = 1,4





Agriculture: 1993 - 2003

Indicator	1993	2003
Agricultural land (ha)	125,303	124,615
Arable land (ha)	72,899	57,008
Persons employed in agriculture, hunting and forestry (thous., LFS)	5.6	2.9
Yields of cereals (tonnes/ha)	3.17	3.62
Cattle stock, total (1 March)	53,027	34,819

Health care

Indicator	Region	CR
No. of physicians per 1000 population	3.6	3.9
No. of beds in hospitals per 1000 population	5.6	6.5
Infant mortality (average for 1999-2003, ‰)	5.2	4.2

ence on the shaping of the Region's economy. After the extraction of non-ferrous ores had declined, the economy split into a varied composition of industrial industries—engineering, glass and ceramics making, manufacture of textile and chemicals, coal mining and kaolin extraction. Balneology has always had a dominant position there over centuries. The restructuring of industrial production has significantly affected the economy of the Region since the 1990s. The creation of conditions for the revitalization of the landscape heavily struck and devastated here and there may be a positive effect of cutting the coal mining.

Comprehensive evaluation of the Region's main macroeconomic indicators does not end up favourably; it ranks the Region third in regional economies—e.g. the Region has the smallest share in total gross domestic product, only a bit over 2%. Manufacturing, trade, and transport plus telecommunications make comprehensive contributions to the gross value added in the Region: 29%, 10% and 9%, respectively. Output of mineral resources is also significant—11% in gross value added at the national level, which is not quite 7% of the regional gross value added. Tourism (4%) and balneology-affected health services (7%) exceed the national level.

The share of GDP per inhabitant is the second smallest—it accounts for 78% of the national average or 49% of the EU-15 average.

The share of the Region in total gross fixed capital formation of the CR is less than 3%, but its value related to one inhabitant of the Region is more favourable—the fifth largest among the regions. Investments in transport (32% of the regional total), mining and quarrying (25%), hotels and restaurants (10%), and health (5%) are significant.

A low level of education

The recent changes in the age structure reduce the need for pre-school facilities and basic schools. Nevertheless, the Region still belongs to younger regions. The offer of secondary schools in the Region is rather limited and gets reflected in the smallest rate of participation in secondary education (apart from the *Středočeský* Region) in the given age population. The proportion of new entrants to secondary schools in the corresponding age population suggests that the Region's gap between GCSE and non-GCSE fields of study is the narrowest (which also applies to the *Liberecký* Region) compared to the other re-

Pupils and students: school year 2003/2004

Type of school	Thous.
Nursery schools	8.2
Basic schools	29.2
Grammar schools	3.3
Secondary technical schools	5.6
Secondary vocational schools	6.3
Higher professional schools	0.2
Universities	1.4

gions of the country. Of interest is the fact arising from the vicinity of Germany that the *Karlovarský* Region is the only region where the proportion of pupils learning German in basic schools is higher than the proportion of pupils learning English. Besides, the Region has the highest proportion of pupils learning Russian, which is due to the growing Russian-speaking minority especially in the area of *Karlovy Vary*.

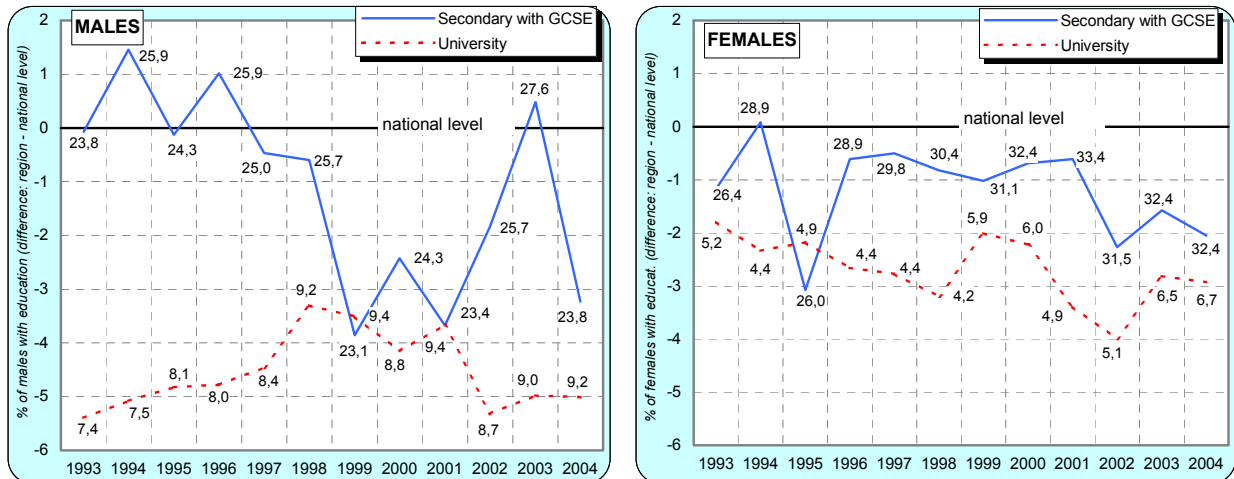
The *Karlovarský* Region's level of education is rather below the average of nationwide indicators. Figures of the last census show that 28.7% of the adult population has only basic education (23.5% in the CR), 38.4% of the population aged 15+ has secondary education without GCSE (38.0% in the CR), and only 25.8% of the Region's population has secondary education with GCSE (28.4% in the CR). There is a significant difference in the proportion of the population with university education: 5.6% in the Region and 8.9% in the CR. The highest proportion of the population with basic education is in the administrative territory of the municipality of Aš (one should bear in mind, however, that it had the largest proportion of population whose degree of education was not established in the last census), as distinguished from the administrative territory of *Mariánské Lázně* whose proportion of persons with basic education was the smallest. The same administrative territory had also the greatest proportion of persons with university education (along with *Karlovy Vary*).

Non-state health establishments reinforced markedly

In the *Karlovarský* Region, too, the number of physicians increases. The ratio of physicians in state to non-state health establishments changes considerably. When most of the health establishments had been moved under the administration by the Region, the proportion of physicians in non-state health establishments went up to today's 96.2% (an increase of 40% since 2000).

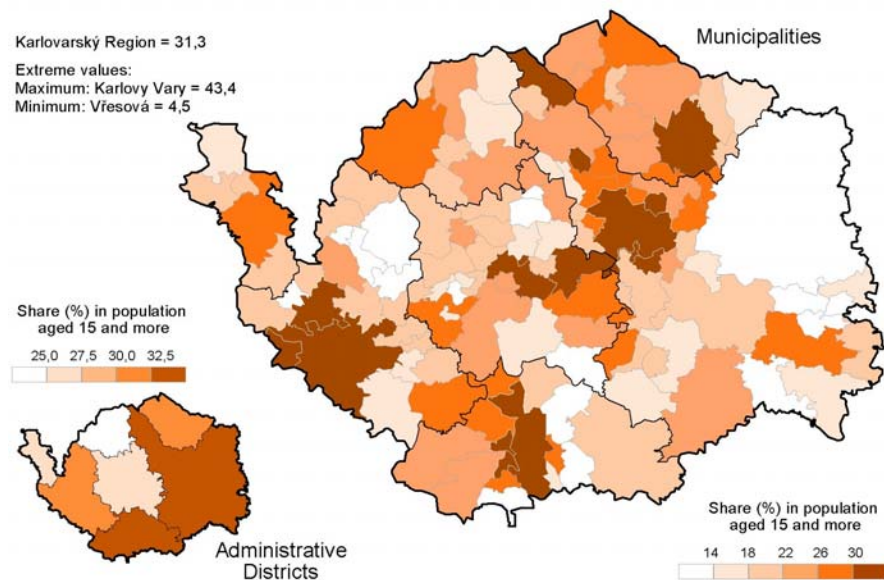


Share of males and females with secondary and university education - relation of region to the Czech Republic

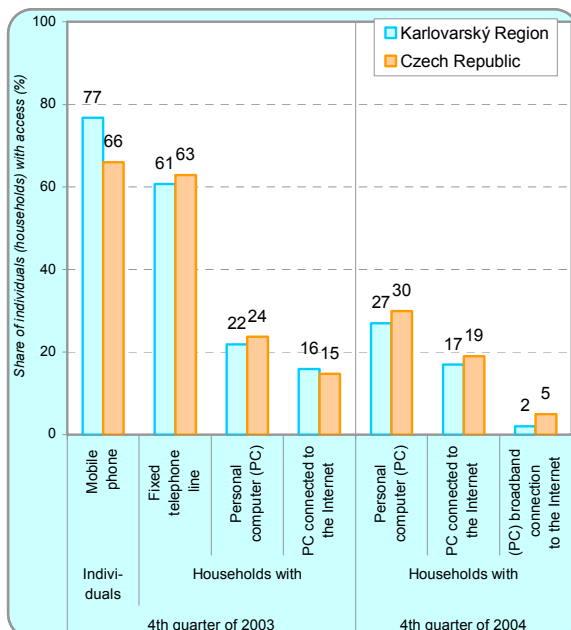


Note: Figures in graph express share of persons with secondary education with GCSE in total population aged 15+ in region, or share of persons with university education in total population aged 25+ in region

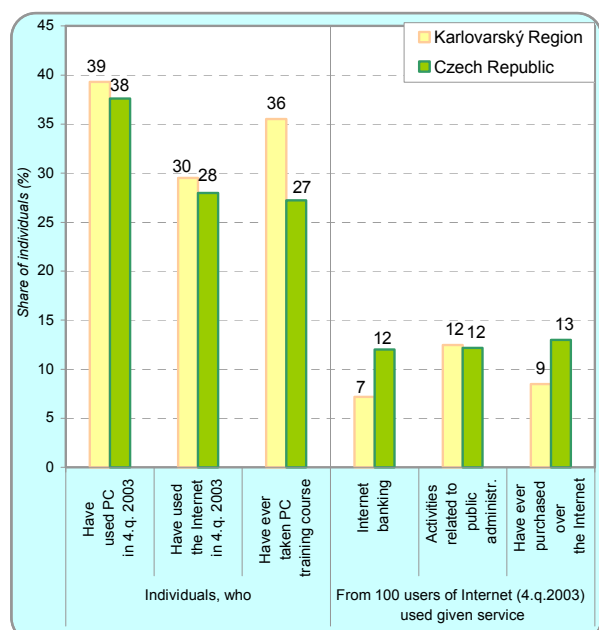
Share of persons with completed secondary or university education (Census 2001)



Access of households to information technologies



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





There are 5 hospitals in operation in the Region now and they do not change very much as far as the number of beds goes. Furthermore, you can find 3 specialized therapeutical institutions, more than 100 surgeries of physicians for adults, 60 surgeries of physicians for children and adolescents, next to 150 surgeries of stomatologists, and almost 250 surgeries of specialists there. Since the 1990s, the average incapacity-for-work percentage has been rising as the duration of incapacity for work gets longer. One case of incapacity for work takes 27 calendar days today.

Social care establishments are relatively stabilized in the Region. Rather large increases were recorded for community care service houses whose total number and the number of dwelling units in them increased. Persons receiving partial disability pensions have been on the increase recently. Like elsewhere in the country, the number of paid state social care support benefits decreased in response to abolishing some benefits on the one hand and more strict rules imposed on granting certain benefits on the other hand.

A distinct growth tendency of employment in progressive services

The overall proportion of economically active persons in the working-age population is the second greatest (next to Prague), as with the separate groups of men and women. The highest ever is the participation rate in the age group of young people (up to the age of 24). The economic activity of pre-retirement-age citizens is above the average and the same applies to the proportion of working seniors in the economically active population. In comparison with the country's average, the economically active were rising in their proportion throughout past 40 years, and especially in last decade. The proportion of women in the total number of economically active persons corresponds to the national average as was in the past. Average, in comparisons with the other

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

Degree of education	Total		Men		Women	
	1993	2003	1993	2003	1993	2003
Basic and no education	40.6	30.0	49.6	36.0	35.4	26.7
Secondary without GCSE	75.6	75.5	81.5	81.3	67.3	66.8
Secondary with GCSE	76.0	68.7	78.0	74.0	74.3	64.5
University	85.9	82.4	93.6	85.0	75.9	79.1

Participation rate: by age group, %

Age group	Total		Men		Women	
	1993	2003	1993	2003	1993	2003
Total	65.4	61.5	73.9	70.4	57.5	53.2
15 - 19	40.2	12.4	43.0	13.0	37.2	11.8
20 - 24	73.2	68.3	81.9	75.7	64.0	60.7
25 - 29	84.1	77.0	96.8	95.6	70.9	58.3
30 - 34	90.3	85.7	97.7	98.1	82.7	72.8
35 - 39	94.1	91.5	98.2	96.8	89.8	86.1
40 - 44	94.0	93.1	95.9	95.2	92.1	90.9
45 - 49	94.8	93.6	96.9	94.5	92.7	92.8
50 - 54	86.1	89.4	93.6	93.2	79.3	85.6
55 - 59	49.9	63.6	73.7	79.0	27.9	49.2
60 - 64	18.9	22.4	23.0	30.1	15.2	16.0
65+	5.9	3.1	7.9	.	4.7	.

regions, is also the proportion of the self-employed with employees and without employees in the total number of the economically active. The proportion of self-employed women is the third largest among the regions.

The proportion of persons employed in the primary sector is the second smallest of all the regions—it dropped to a third in ten years. Employment in the secondary sector was increasing little by little to be as high as more than 40% now. The larger proportion of the employed than that in the other regions is found for manufacture of mineral products (glass, ceramics, etc.): the second largest, next to the *Liberecký* Region. The tertiary sphere experienced a high growth rate of employment. Services of mostly public nature (education, health, social care, etc.) especially have the second largest proportion of the employed among the CR's regions, and the proportion of people engaged in market services is also above the average. A high growth of employment—almost double—is recorded for progressive services (R&D, real estate services, etc.) also referred to as the quaternary sector.

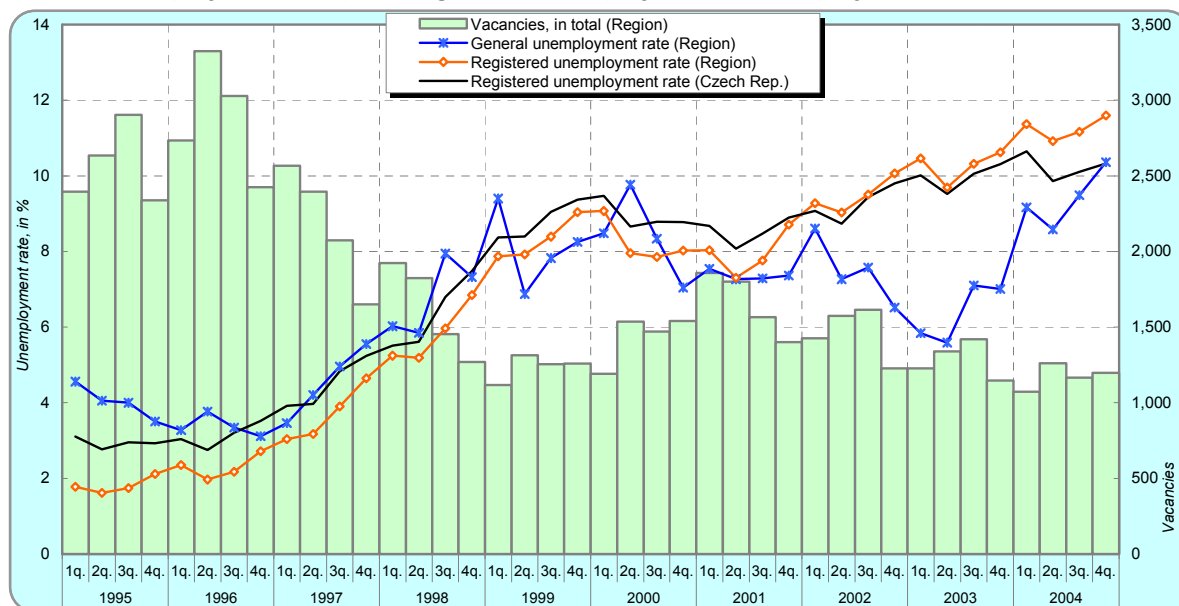
Entrepreneurial intensity of the Karlovarský Region's citizens is lower than the average for the country, as is also the educational attainment level of entrepreneurs (the self-employed with employees).

Mines and balneology!?

Ceramic clay, kaolin, ore and coal mining and quarrying, health service—balneology and tourism are industries of importance for the economy and consequently the labour market and unemployment in the *Karlovarský* Region. The coal and ore mining are under decline now, which increases unemployment. The process of privatisation and transformation of the economy has also an important role to play here. Unemployment was compensated for, to a large extent and especially in the early 1990s, by commuting daily or weekly to adjacent areas of Bavaria. Since 1998, the unemployment had so increased that the cross-border going to work was far from making up for the loss of jobs in the domestic labour market and both general and registered unemployment levels have risen to the current figures corresponding to the nationwide average.

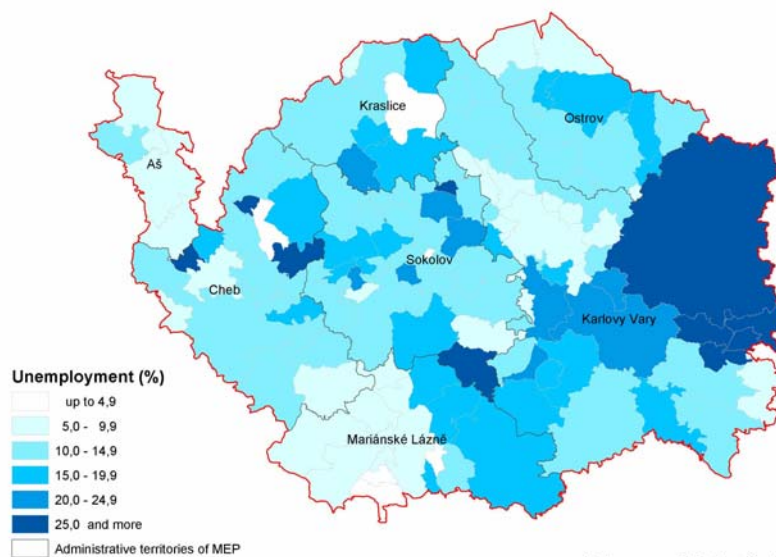


General unemployment rate (ILO), registered unemployment rate (employment offices), vacancies



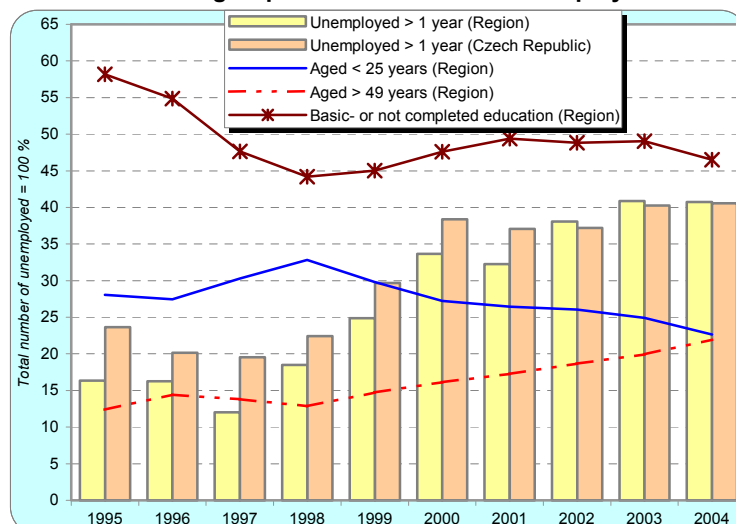
Note: Registered unemployment rate refers to the end of respective quarter

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)



The interesting thing about this is that the highest unemployment rates are not measured in the Region's areas neighbouring with the Bavarian border, but in the neighbourhood of the border with the Ústecký Region in the north.

The rise in the absolute number of unemployed job applicants, which was occurring since the year 2000, almost doubled against the average, the number of young unemployed people stagnated, and that of the unemployed with reduced capacity to work followed the average rise. The number of job applicants per vacancy has increased twice over the same time period, but the values in both of these cases are only a little bit above the national average. The unemployment benefit goes to three of every ten unemployed persons, but to over a half of the young unemployed.

Wages falling more and more behind the average

Disposable income belonging to every citizen living in the *Karlovarský* Region hardly exceeds the 90% of the average value belonging to the whole of the CR. This indicator ranks the Region on the last but one place (13th) in the country, like in previous years.

In 2003, the average monthly wage amounted to CZK 14 950 (less than € 480) and was the third lowest of all the regions, as opposed to 1996 when the Region ranked eighth. The year-on-year growth rate of wages is one of the lowest and is definitely lower than the national one, the widening gap between averages wages in the country and the Region thus being a direct consequence.

Average hourly wages in individual main groups of occupations do not diverge from the national average significantly. A slightly above-average level (not more than by 5%) is found for manual workers in the primary sector. Hourly wages of workers with various levels of educational attainment mostly do not differ very much—they are only a little short of the averages, the group of workers with higher

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	6,201	94.5	8,938	89.0
	Compensation of employees	18,475	98.5	27,197	86.2
	Property income	1,831	84.8	2,373	96.1
Uses	Property income	634	86.7	609	84.6
	Balance of primary income, net	25,874	96.7	37,899	87.5
Secondary distribution of income account of households					
Resources	Social benefits other than social benefits in kind	4,259	90.4	8,475	91.0
	Other current transfers	1,572	101.0	2,402	98.7
	Current taxes on income, wealth, etc.	2,037	96.6	2,995	87.7
Uses	Social contributions	6,354	98.4	9,817	86.7
	Other current transfers	1,084	99.1	2,431	98.5
	Disposable income, net	22,230	95.2	33,534	88.5

professional education being rather a small exception. Balanced are also all age groups of workers as far as wages are concerned. The Region has the second highest wage ratio of non-manual and manual workers, the wage ratio of females and males failing to reach the average. In comparison with other regions of the country, wages in market services are the lowest, in the construction second lowest and in the industry third lowest.

The proportion of social incomes in gross incomes fails to reach the CR's average. Households of the Region belong to less rich ones, and the proportion of households with less than 1.5 times the subsistence level ranks the Region tenth. Only 13% of households report that their income is easy to live on.

World-famous balneology and china factories

The Karlovarský Region is the second smallest region in the CR in terms of area and the smallest ever as far as its population is concerned. It has the smallest proportion of agricultural land and woodland, too. Its 17% proportion of arable land is by far the smallest of all the regions and does not even reach half the average. Po-

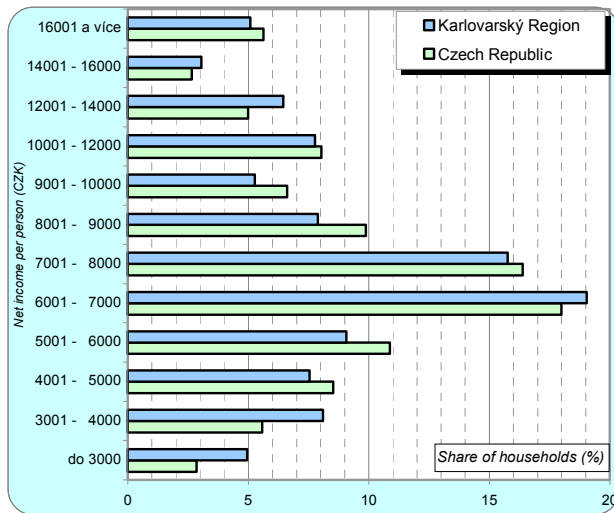
tato growing does well here; yields per hectare are the biggest of the country, but the total production is negligible as the growing areas are small. Flourishing on free areas not tended is the giant weed, formerly a decorative plant, but now the terror of free landscape. The share of gross value added by agriculture and forestry is around 3% and tends to drop.

The share of the industry in total gross value added is more than 40% and tends to rise distinctly—more than by a third over ten years. Coal mining and kaolin extraction are important industries, as was uranium ore mining in the past. These natural resources gave rise to a number of renowned china factories (the world-famous *Slavkov* porcelain, etc.) and glassworks (*Moser*). The total goods-export performance of the *Karlovarský* Region is the smallest of all the regions with the exception of Prague. Porcelain and ceramic goods are the most significant export articles (over 85% of the country's exports).

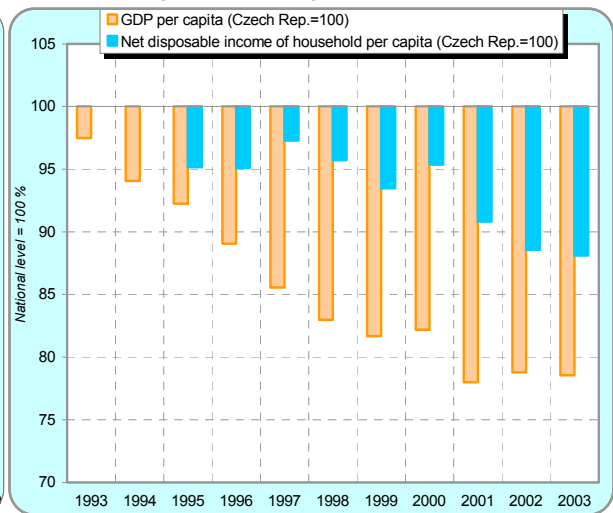
More than half the economically active population is employed in the sector of services, of which a remarkable portion in balneology – a branch characteristic of the Region. There are seventy balneological



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

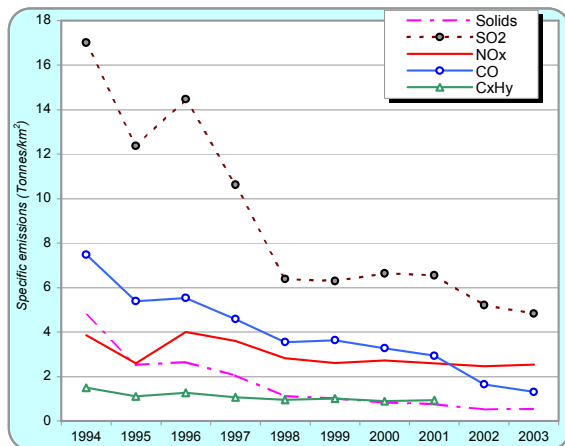


Gross domestic product and disposable income

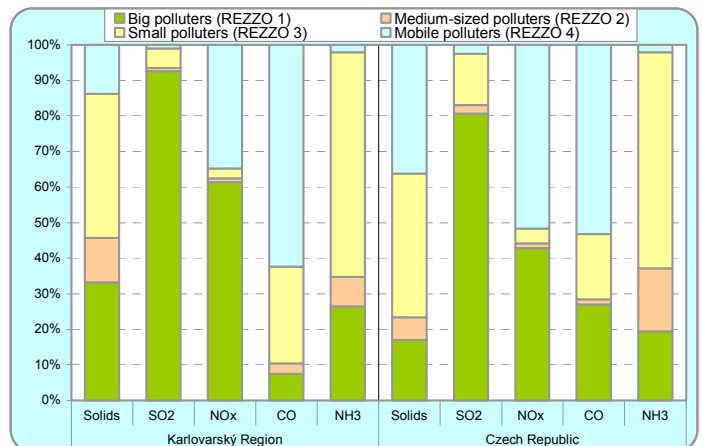


Note: Data on disposable income are available since 1995

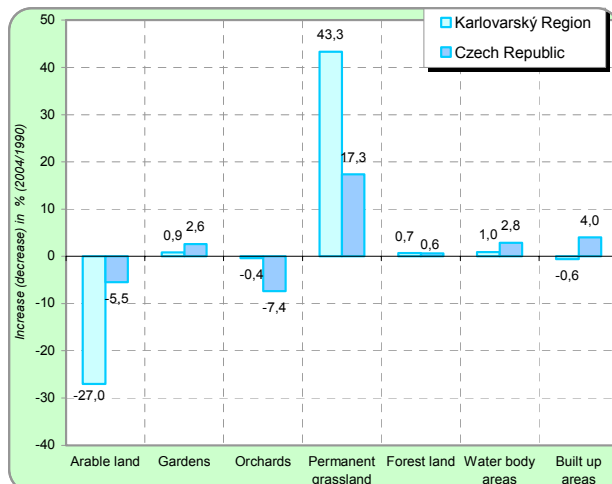
Specific emissions of main pollutants (REZZO 1-3)



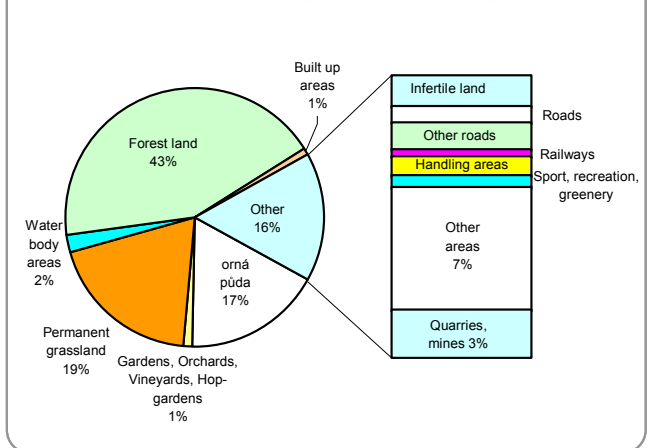
Structure of main pollutants by sources in 2003



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	517,238	532,860
From the CR	212,958	353,194
From abroad	304,280	179,666
Number of overnight stays	2,909,961	3,785,126
CR nationals	1,515,653	1,358,034
Foreign nationals	1,394,308	2,427,092
Average length of stay (days)	6.6	8.1

establishments there, almost half of those in the CR. *Karlovy Vary* spa (Karlsbad), e.g., with their hot mineral springs and a history longer than 600 years is world-famous. Spas such as *Mariánské lázně* and *Františkovy lázně*, both dating back to the 17th century, and *Lázně Jáchymov* where curative radon water is used are well known, too. The balneology is closely tied in to the high level of tourism in the Region: almost half a million guests are accommodated here every year of whom more than 300 thousand come from abroad.

No speed connection with Prague

The state border with the Federal Republic of Germany makes up over half the entire border length of the CR's westernmost region. The *Karlovarský* Region's neighbours are the Free State of Bavaria with its regions Upper Palatinate and Upper Franconia in the west and Saxony with its Dresden Region in the north. There are over 10 important railway and road border crossings on these borders. Many of them were re-opened after the political changes in the year 1989. Before 1989, half of the *Karlovarský* Region's borders had been impermeably closed off for 40 years. This also affected the condition of the railway and road transport networks, especially the part adjoining the borders. The situation concerning transport in the Region is brand new, diametrically different now. The opened borders enormously raised the traffic involving both passenger cars and commercial vehicles. The existing road system turned out to be insufficient and negative impacts on the environment increased substantially. All this indicated that the transport

infrastructure did not match the Region's development needs.

The road network of the *Karlovarský* Region only accounts for less than 4% of the national road and motorway network length. Connecting the network with Prague implies to cross other two administrative regions for which an arterial speedway is missing. In comparison with other regions, the road density here is low, one eighth down on the average. With its 330 thousand passenger cars per thousand inhabitants, the motorization ranked the Region tenth in the CR, which also applied to commercial vehicles. The development of motorization in several last years has also been well below the average.

The operating length of railway lines, 433 km, accounts for less than 5% of the railway transport system of the country, the density of railway lines is slightly above the average.

Karlovy Vary – a centre of balneology

The *Karlovarský* Region has had a high percentage of spa accommodation facilities in the CR for a long time. Their capacities account for more than 40% of accommodation capacities of spas in the whole of the CR. Beside the world-famous spa of *Karlovy Vary*, the health resort centres also include *Mariánské Lázně* (Spa), *Františkovy Lázně* (Spa), *Jáchymov* (Spa) and *Lázně Kynžvart* (Spa). *Karlovy Vary* are also famous for being the host of the International Film Festival which also attracts visitors to the spa town. Tourists come to see the historic town of *Cheb* and the castles at *Bečov nad Teplou* (where the Reliquary of St. Maurus, one of the most precious ritual objects in

our territory, is on show), *Loket*, *Teplá* or recently opened *Kynžvart* castle (built in the empire style). Extensive forests are found in the area of *Slavkovský les*.

The worldwide decline of the interest in travelling resulting from the terrorist attacks in 2001 showed itself in the attendance of the *Karlovarský* Region, too. However, the number of visitors has been already rising since 2003 despite the continued downward trend in the number of accommodation facilities. Characteristic of the Region is the average stay of visitors – it is the longest of all the CR's regions and exceeds 8 days. Obviously, this is closely related to the balneological nature of a large number of tourist stays. Germans clearly dominate the foreign visitors, and the number of guests from Russia gradually increases, which is also made possible by the direct air connection between *Karlovy Vary* and Moscow.

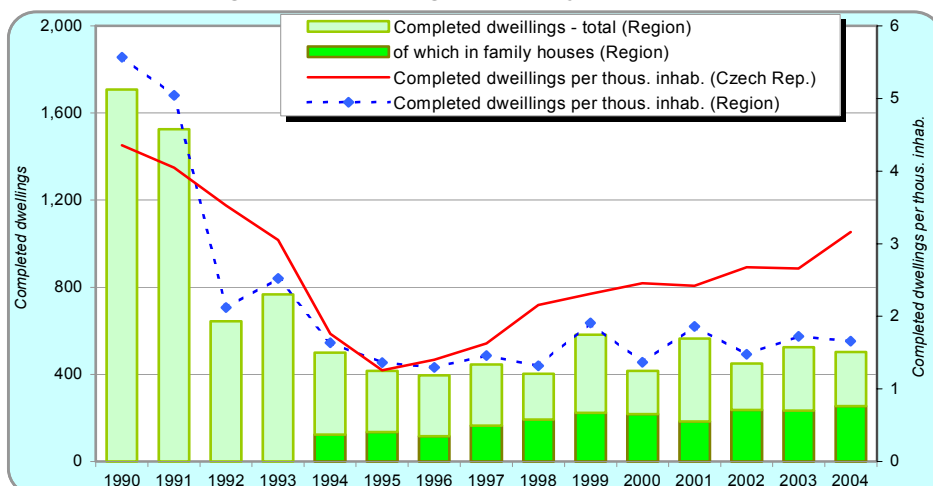
A small tradition of individual housing construction

A long-term characteristic of the *Karlovarský* Region is its small tradition of individual housing construction. This of course gets reflected in the structure of the housing stock where the proportion of multi-dwelling buildings is unusually high. In comparison with the nationwide percentage of family houses in the housing stock (86.3 % in 2001), the proportion of family houses in all residential buildings of the *Karlovarský* Region is by 17.3% down. Unoccupied houses accounted for 10.6% of the total housing stock (13.3% in the CR).

After its depression in the 1990s, the housing construction revived at the turn of the century. Most dwellings were completed in family houses (45%), followed by dwellings in multi-dwelling buildings (17.6%) and extensions to family houses or multi-dwelling buildings (8.4%). The number of dwellings under construction increases more and more in the Region, so dwellings to be completed in the years to come can be assumed to rise in number, too.



Completed dwellings - in all buildings / in family houses



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

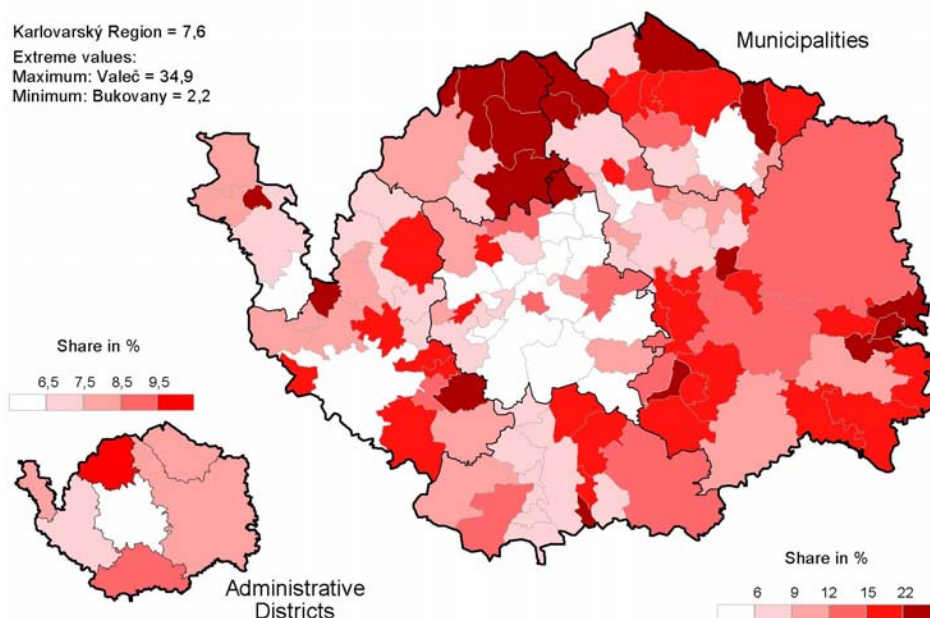
Share of unoccupied dwellings in total dwelling stock (Census 2001)

Karlovarský Region = 7,6

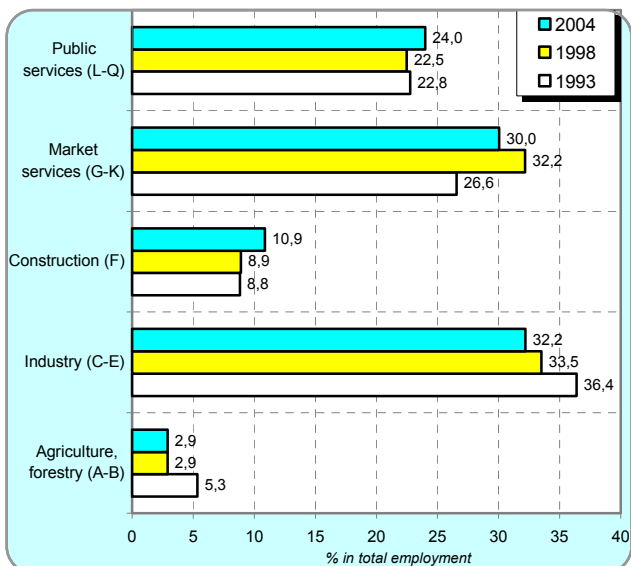
Extreme values:

Maximum: Valeč = 34,9

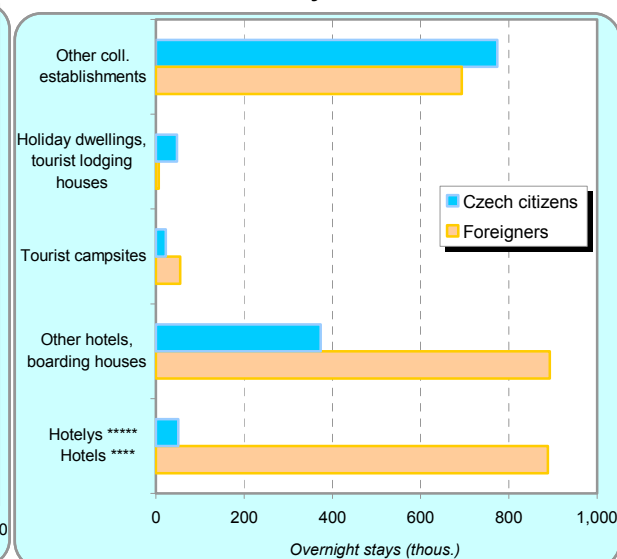
Minimum: Bukovany = 2,2



Employment in major sectors (groups of NACE)

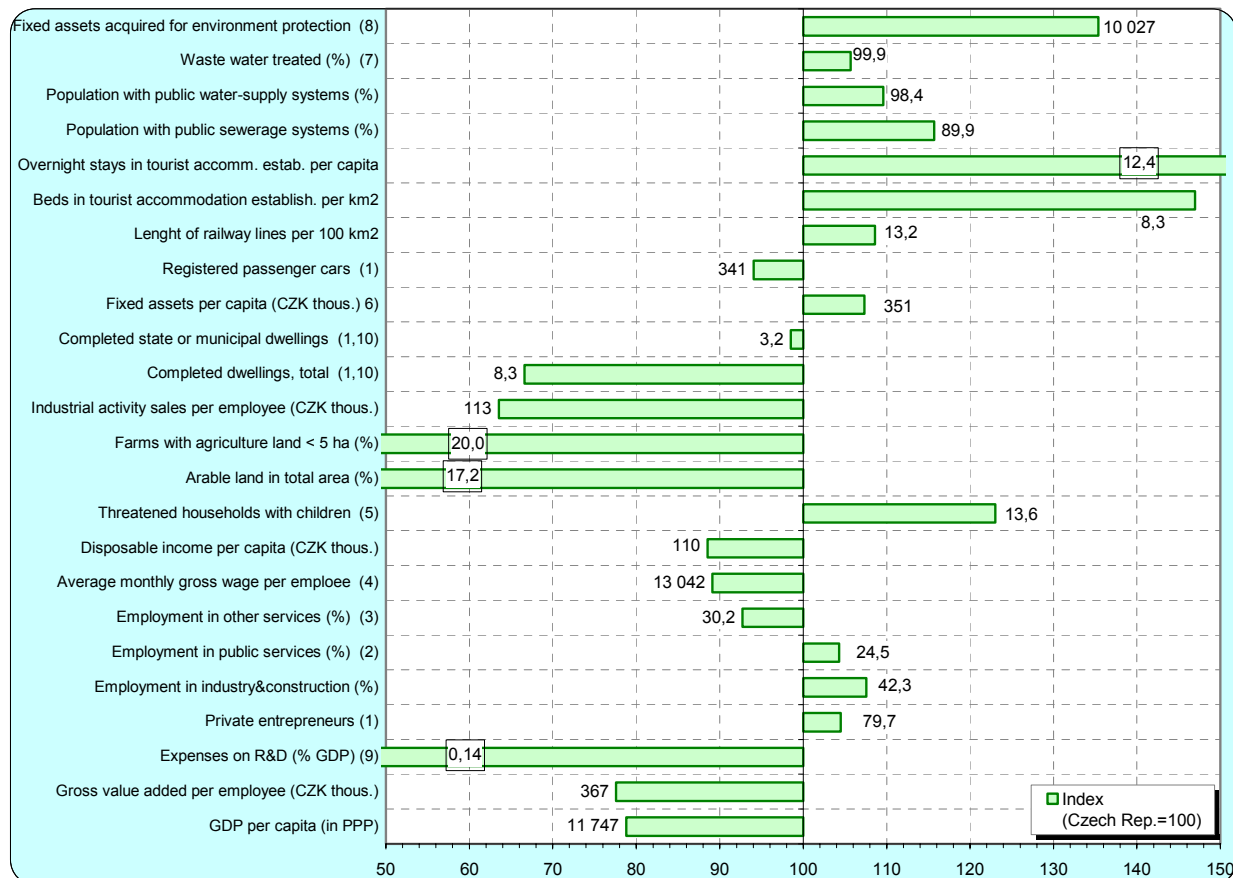


Overnight stays in collective tourist accommodation establishments in 2004 - by class





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

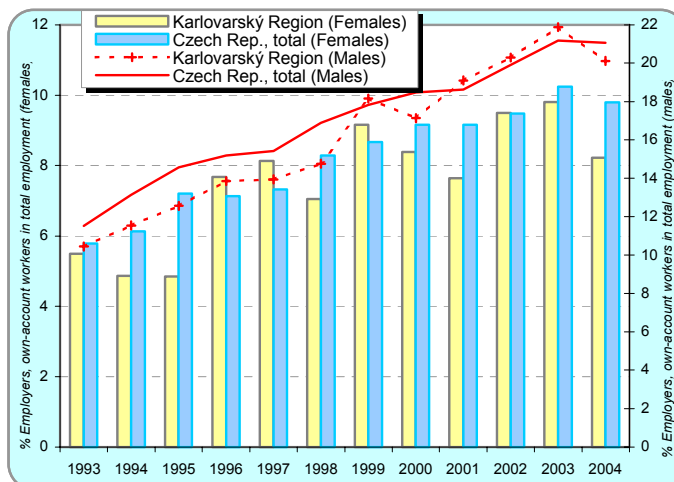
7) Related to total waste water discharged into public sewerage systems (=100%)

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

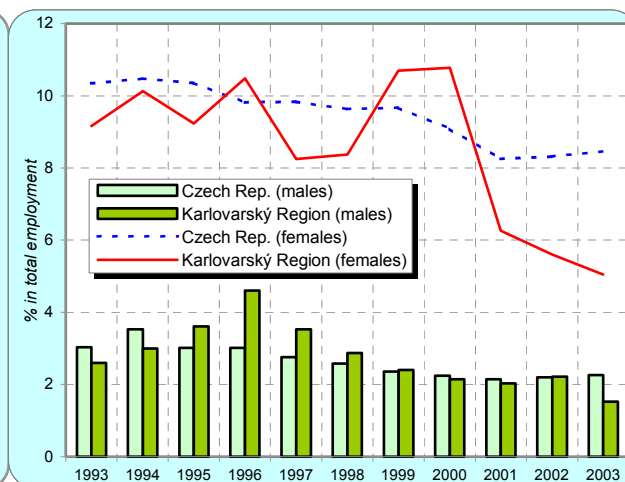
9) Average for period 2001-2003

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 (Karlovarský)	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	91.6	129.4	126.2	100.8	120.3	116.6
		Rank	x	11 / 14	30 / 41	61 / 117	774 / 1105	824 / 1208
2	Total population increase (1995-2002) ³	Value	-0.6	-1.8	-4.0	-1.4	2.7	2.0
		Rank	x	4 / 14	15 / 40	41 / 117	723 / 1078	760 / 1181
3	Natural population increase (1995-2001) ³	Value	-0.4	-2.0	-0.9	-0.7	0.9	0.6
		Rank	x	1 / 14	9 / 40	45 / 111	565 / 1078	609 / 1175
4	Migration population increase (1995-2001) ^{3,4}	Value	-0.2	0.1	-1.6	-0.7	1.9	1.4
		Rank	x	9 / 14	19 / 40	47 / 111	751 / 1078	789 / 1175
5	GDP per capita (2002), in Purchasing Power Parity	Value	11,277	14,315	10,912	10,966	23,164	21,172
		Rank	x	11 / 14	30 / 40	40 / 121	1076 / 1101	1105 / 1208
6	GDP per capita (1995), in Purchasing Power Parity	Value	9,833	10,660	7,882	7,118	16,869	15,233
		Rank	x	6 / 14	20 / 40	13 / 115	982 / 1076	989 / 1177
7	Share of economically active in total population (% , 2002)	Value	51.0	50.0	45.3	45.5	46.8	46.6
		Rank	x	2 / 14	8 / 41	13 / 123	161 / 986	172 / 1095
8	Sh. of economically active women in total women pop. (% , 2001)	Value	92.0	43.4	39.8	40.5	39.2	39.4
		Rank	x	2 / 14	4 / 28	15 / 114	79 / 585	92 / 685
9	Employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing (% , 2001)	Value	3.6	4.8	12.1	17.0	4.0	6.0
		Rank	x	11 / 14	33 / 40	99 / 113	597 / 1063	685 / 1162
10	Employment in industry and construction (% , 2001)	Value	40.6	40.1	36.2	30.5	25.9	26.6
		Rank	x	12 / 14	20 / 40	27 / 113	96 / 1063	111 / 1162
11	Employment in services (% , 2001)	Value	55.9	55.2	51.8	52.5	70.1	67.3
		Rank	x	3 / 14	13 / 40	36 / 113	872 / 1063	905 / 1162
12	Unemployment rate, total, based LFS (% , 2003)	Value	6.4	7.8	18.0	14.5	8.1	9.1
		Rank	x	7 / 14	23 / 40	98 / 123	466 / 991	548 / 1100
13	Unemployment rate, women, based LFS (% , 2003)	Value	6.4	9.9	16.7	15.3	8.9	10.0
		Rank	x	12 / 14	20 / 28	101 / 123	298 / 591	385 / 700
14	Unemployment rate, persons up to 25 years, LFS (% , 2003)	Value	14.5	18.6	26.7	32.3	15.8	18.4
		Rank	x	10 / 14	17 / 28	95 / 123	218 / 494	303 / 603
15	Bed in hotels and similar establishments per capita (2002)	Value	60.5	24.1	15.2	10.5	26.1	23.6
		Rank	x	1 / 14	4 / 41	4 / 118	122 / 1105	125 / 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)

⁴ 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 Luxemburg - 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

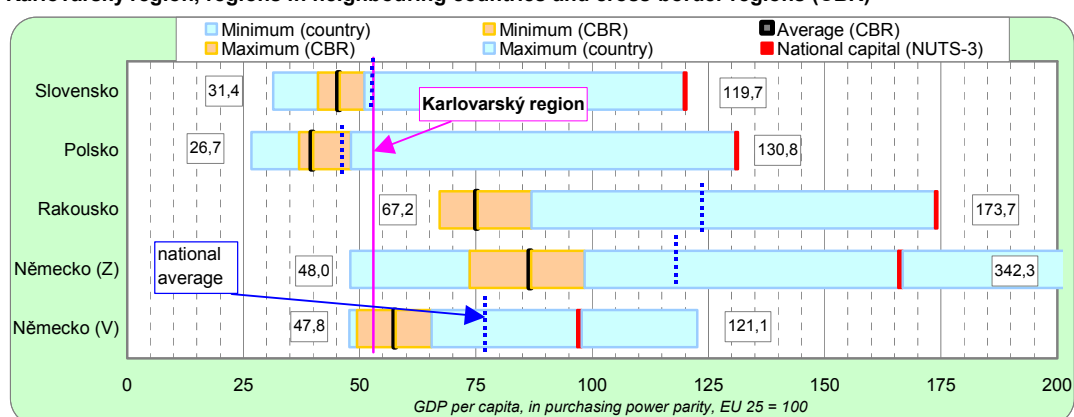
Note: Some figures (for CR and its regions) may differ (mainly due to revisions) from those stated in the previous part of this chapter.

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:

Karlovarský region, regions in neighbouring countries and cross-border regions (CBR)¹¹ Cross-border regions include all NUTS-3 regions adjoining to the Czech Republic