



# Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	9
Regional statistics give more detailed information .....	10
The NUTS classification .....	10
Coverage .....	11
More regional information .....	11
<b>1 POPULATION</b> .....	13
Revealing the regional pattern of demography .....	14
The drivers behind population change .....	14
Demographic ageing: the situation today... ..	17
... and its impact in the future .....	21
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	22
<b>2 URBAN STATISTICS</b> .....	25
Introduction .....	26
What makes the Urban Audit unique? .....	26
Wide choice of indicators .....	26
Large geographical coverage .....	26
More than a decade-long time series .....	26
Attractiveness of cities .....	28
Conclusion .....	35
<b>3 GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT</b> .....	37
What is regional gross domestic product? .....	38
Regional GDP in 2005 .....	38
Three-year average GDP over the period 2003–05 .....	40
Major regional differences even within countries .....	40
Dynamic catch-up process in the new Member States .....	42
Different trends within the countries .....	45
Convergence makes progress .....	45
Conclusion .....	48
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	48
<i>Purchasing power parities and international volume comparisons</i> .....	48
<i>Dispersion of regional per-inhabitant GDP</i> .....	49
<b>4 HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS</b> .....	51
Introduction: Measuring wealth .....	52
Private household income .....	52
Results for 2005 .....	52
Primary income .....	52
Disposable income .....	53
Dynamic development on the edge of the Union .....	58
Conclusion .....	58
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	61



<b>5 STRUCTURAL BUSINESS STATISTICS</b> .....	63
Introduction .....	64
Regional specialisation and business concentration .....	64
Focus on chemicals manufacturing .....	71
Conclusion .....	74
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	78
<b>6 LABOUR MARKET</b> .....	81
Regional labour market cohesion .....	82
Employment .....	82
Unemployment .....	85
Long-term unemployment .....	85
Disparities in regional labour markets .....	89
Conclusion .....	92
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	93
<i>Definitions</i> .....	93
<b>7 SECTORAL PRODUCTIVITY</b> .....	95
Introduction .....	96
The top sectors .....	96
Productivity at regional level .....	97
How has sectoral productivity developed in recent years? .....	100
Productivity grows when GVA increases... ..	100
... or when employment decreases .....	101
Manufacturing vs knowledge economy .....	105
Conclusion .....	107
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	109
<b>8 LABOUR COSTS</b> .....	111
Introduction .....	112
Hourly labour costs .....	112
Hours actually worked .....	112
Structure of labour costs .....	115
Conclusion .....	117
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	118
<i>Definitions</i> .....	118
<i>Labour costs</i> .....	118
<i>Hours worked</i> .....	118
<i>Full-time equivalents</i> .....	119
<i>Employers' actual social contributions (excluding apprentices)</i> .....	119
<b>9 TRANSPORT</b> .....	121
Introduction .....	122
Transport infrastructure .....	122
Road safety .....	127
Air transport .....	128
Conclusion .....	130
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	135



<b>10 TOURISM</b> .....	137
Introduction .....	138
Accommodation capacity .....	138
Visitor arrivals .....	139
Overnight stays .....	141
Tourism intensity .....	143
Trends in tourism 2000–06 .....	143
Inbound tourism .....	146
Camping tourism .....	146
Future prospects .....	146
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	149
<b>11 SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION</b> .....	151
Introduction .....	152
Human resources in science and technology .....	152
High-technology industries and knowledge-intensive services .....	152
Patents .....	154
High regional concentration of high-tech patenting .....	157
Conclusion .....	157
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	159
<b>12 HEALTH</b> .....	161
Introduction .....	162
Causes of death .....	162
Colorectal cancer .....	162
Transport accidents .....	165
Healthcare staff .....	165
Conclusion .....	169
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	170
<b>13 AGRICULTURE</b> .....	173
Introduction .....	174
Animal-rearing in Europe's regions .....	174
Pigs .....	174
Sheep .....	174
Cattle .....	180
Milk production .....	180
Conclusion .....	180
<i>Methodological notes</i> .....	182
<b>ANNEX</b> .....	183
EUROPEAN UNION: NUTS 2 regions .....	183
CANDIDATE COUNTRIES: Statistical regions at level 2 .....	186
EFTA COUNTRIES: Statistical regions at level 2 .....	187