



Structural business statistics (SBS) cover industry, construction and non-financial services. Presented according to the activity classification NACE, they describe the structure, conduct and performance of businesses. These statistics can be analysed at a very detailed sectoral level (several hundred economic activities), by enterprise size class or by region.

There are significant disparities between European Union (EU) regions in terms of the importance of different activities within the non-financial business economy. While some activities are distributed relatively evenly across most regions, many others exhibit a considerable variation in their level of regional specialisation, often with a few regions having a particularly high degree of specialisation.

The share of a particular activity within the non-financial business economy gives an idea of which regions are the most or least specialised in that activity, regardless of whether the region or the activity is large or small. The reasons for regional specialisation are varied and include the availability of natural resources (for example, for mining and quarrying and forest-based manufacturing), the availability of skilled employees, costs, infrastructure, legislation, climatic and topographic conditions (particularly regarding tourism-related activities) and the proximity to markets.

Main statistical findings

In 2009 more than 20 million enterprises were active in the EU-27's non-financial business economy: this covers industry, construction and services other than financial intermediation. Together, these enterprises generated approximately EUR 5500 billion (¹) of gross value added and employed around 175 million persons. According to national accounts data, industry accounted for 18.3 % of value added (at basic prices) in the whole economy, construction 6.7 % and non-financial services around 44.2 %; in employment terms the shares were 16.5 % for industry, 7.4 % for construction and 39.2 % for non-financial services.

Industrial and services specialisation

The shares of the non-financial business economy workforce working in the industrial sector and in the non-financial services sector in 2009 are shown in Maps 6.1 and 6.2; no data are available for Greece, France or Malta. When analysing the data for 2009 it is important to bear in mind that the impact of the financial and economic crisis was particularly strong at this time: GDP fell in 2009 by 4.3 % in the EU-27 and employment fell by1.8 %. Among the EU Member States, only Poland recorded an increase in employment and GDP (in real terms) in 2009; the largest contraction in GDP among

(1) Billion is 1 000 million.

the Member States was in Latvia (-17.7%), which also recorded the largest fall in employment (-13.2%).

In 26 regions the share of the industrial workforce in the nonfinancial business economy workforce exceeded 40%: all of these regions, aside from Tübingen (Germany), were located in those Member States that joined the EU in 2004 or 2007. By this measure the most industrialised workforces were in the Czech Republic and Poland (each with six regions above 40%), Romania (four regions) Bulgaria, Slovakia (three regions each), Hungary (two regions) and Slovenia (one region). The highest regional share of the industrial workforce was 58.2% in the Slovak region of Západné Slovensko, the only region where more than half of the non-financial business economy workforce was active in an industrial activity. The regions where less than 10% of the non-financial business economy workforce was active in an industrial sector were the capital city regions of the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, as well as Utrecht (Netherlands), the Algarve (Portugal) and the Spanish island regions and overseas territories of the Canarias, Illes Balears, Ceuta and Melilla. Within Norway, the capital city region of Oslo og Akershus stood out for its relatively low share of industrial employment, just 8.7%; this ratio was just below 20% in Nord-Norge, which was the Norwegian region with the next lowest share.

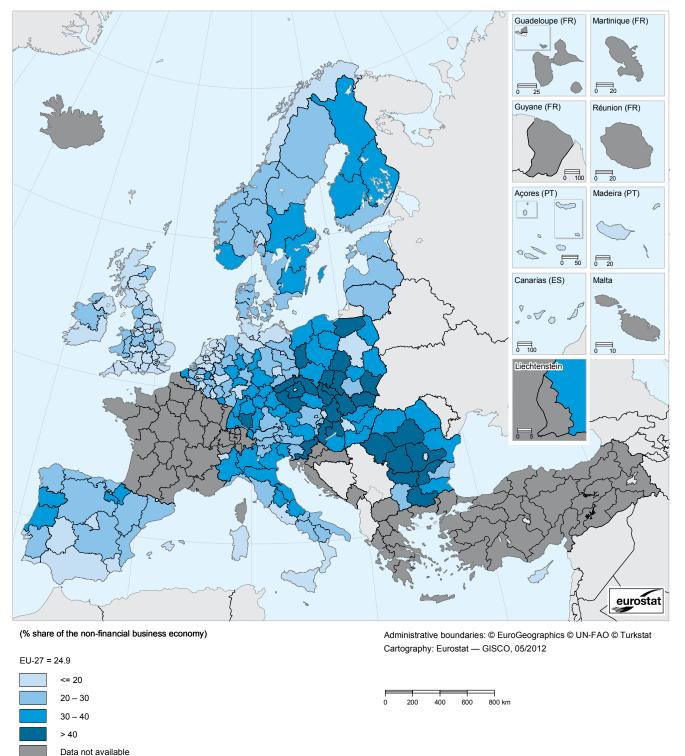
The most service-oriented non-financial business economy workforces were mainly in or bordering major urban areas such as London and the surrounding south-east of England, Hamburg and Berlin in Germany, Noord-Holland (including Amsterdam) in the Netherlands and Bruxelles-Capitale/ Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest in Belgium. The highest share of non-financial services in the non-financial business economy workforce was 93.2 % in Inner London. Nonfinancial services accounted for more than 75% of the non-financial business economy workforce in a total of 34 regions in the EU Member States, among which were 11 capital city regions. Alongside these, the remaining 23 regions with a high proportion of employment in non-financial services included a further 12 regions in the United Kingdom, three more in each of Germany, Spain and the Netherlands, one more in Belgium and one in Finland; the Norwegian capital city region of Oslo og Akershus also recorded in excess of 75% of its non-financial business economy workforce employed within the non-financial services sector.

In total there were 56 regions in the EU where the non-financial services share of employment was 55% or less, and in 12 of these regions the share was 45% or less. The lowest shares were mainly in Slovakia (three of the four Slovak regions) and the Czech Republic (five of the eight Czech regions), as well as in Romania, Bulgaria and Slovenia. The Norwegian region of Agder og Rogaland also reported that the non-financial services share of employment was 55% or less.

The remaining share of non-financial business economy employment that is not represented either in Map 6.1 or



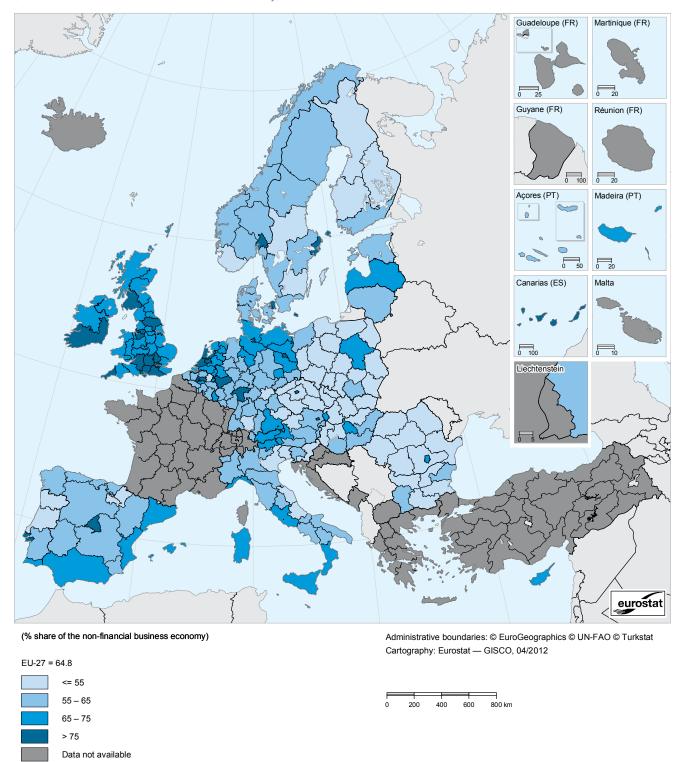
Map 6.1: Employment in the industrial economy, by NUTS 2 regions, 2009 (% share of the non-financial business economy)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_r_nuts06_r2)



Map 6.2: Employment in the non-financial services economy, by NUTS 2 regions, 2009 (% share of the non-financial business economy)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_r_nuts06_r2)

Map 6.2 was in construction. The share of construction in non-financial business economy employment ranged across the EU from less than 5% in the urban regions of Darmstadt, Bremen, Köln, Hamburg (all Germany) and Inner London (United Kingdom) to more than 18% in the Regiões Autónomas of the Açores and Madeira (Portugal), the territories of Melilla and Ceuta, the regions of Extremadura and Castilla-La Mancha (Spain), the Province/Provincie Luxembourg (Belgium) and Valle d'Aosta/Vallée d'Aoste and Molise (Italy).

Detailed specialisation within the non-financial business economy

Table 6.1 presents a more detailed activity analysis, at the NACE section and division levels. For each of these activities the table indicates the median and mean share of that activity in the non-financial business economy workforce for all regions. The final two columns in the table show which region was the most specialised for each activity in 2009, as well as the relative importance of the most specialised region within the total workforce for that activity in the EU (for reasons of data availability the share in the EU is based on an aggregate of all Member States except Greece, France and Malta).

Mining and quarrying activities of energy-producing and metallic minerals tend to be very concentrated as a consequence of the geographical location of deposits, and therefore only a small number of regions tend to be highly specialised in these activities. The most notable case was the mining of coal and lignite, where Śląskie (Poland) was the most specialised region in 2009 and alone accounted for 40.5% of the EU employment in this activity. In a similar manner, North Eastern Scotland (United Kingdom) was the most specialised in mining support services as this region provides support for the offshore extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas, for which it was also the most specialised region; furthermore it was the most specialised region for two services divisions that also support oil and gas extraction, namely architectural and engineering activities and rental and leasing activities. In contrast, for many other activities the most specialised regions accounted for a relatively small share of total EU employment; this was particularly the case for construction activities, distributive trades and real estate, which are activities commonly found in most regions where there is little specialisation.

Manufacturing activities which involve the primary processing stages of agricultural, fishing or forestry products tend to be concentrated in areas close to the source of the raw material. The regions most specialised in food manufacturing (NACE Division 10) were often located in rural areas or close to agricultural production centres: Podlaskie (the most specialised of all the regions) and other regions in the eastern part of Poland, Dél-Alföld in Hungary, Alentejo in Portugal, Severen tsentralen in Bulgaria and Lincolnshire in the United Kingdom. Heavily forested Nordic and Baltic regions

were the most specialised regions in the manufacture of wood and wood products (NACE Division 16) and in the related manufacturing of paper and paper products (NACE Division 17). Itä-Suomi (Finland) was the most specialised region in wood and wood products and Norra Mellansverige (Sweden) was the most specialised for pulp and paper.

Construction activities (NACE Divisions 41 to 43) accounted for the highest shares of the workforce in Região Autónoma dos Açores in Portugal; these activities were also historically one of the main employers in some Spanish regions; however, the financial and economic crisis is likely to have resulted in a reduction in employment levels in recent years (data for the 2009 reference year are not available for construction at the division level for Spain).

Transport services are also influenced by location, with water transport (NACE Division 50) naturally being important for coastal regions and islands, while air transport (NACE Division 51) is generally important for regions with or close to major cities, but also for island regions (especially those focused on tourism). The small island region of Åland (Finland) is a centre for the ferry services between Sweden and Finland and other Baltic Sea traffic. Åland was very highly specialised in water transport, which accounted for over 40 % of the total number of persons employed in this region's non-financial business economy in 2009, many times more than the next most specialised region. Outer London was the region most specialised in air transport; while other regions with a high share of their non-financial business economy workforce in air transport included Noord-Holland (the Dutch region including Amsterdam), Köln in Germany and Niederösterreich in Austria. The German region of Köln (which includes the city of Bonn) is home to Deutsche Post DHL and was particularly specialised in postal and courier activities.

Regions in Member States traditionally associated with tourism, for example in Portugal, Spain and Italy, were the most specialised in accommodation (NACE Division 55) and food service activities (NACE Division 56). Accommodation services accounted for more than 10% of the non-financial business economy workforce in the Alpine regions of the Provincia Autonoma Bolzano/Bozen (Italy) and Tirol (Austria), the island regions of Illes Balears (Spain) and the Região Autónoma da Madeira (Portugal), the Scottish Highlands and Islands (United Kingdom) and the German coastal region of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. The Algarve in Portugal was the most specialised region in terms of its employment share for food and beverage service activities.

Specialisation in information and communication activities (NACE Divisions 58 to 63), real estate activities (NACE Division 68), professional scientific and technical activities (NACE Divisions 69 to 75) and administrative and support service activities (NACE Divisions 77–82) may be based on access to a critical mass of clients (enterprises or households) or access to a specific knowledge base (external researchers and/or qualified staff).



Table 6.1: Average shares of non-financial business economy employment and most specialised regions by activity (NACE sections and divisions), by NUTS 2 region, 2009 (¹) (% share of non-financial business economy employment)

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Wasta management (20)	0.8
Waste management (38) 0.6 0.6 Sicilia (ITG1)	2.1
Remediation (39) 0.0 Canarias (ES70)	4.5
Construction (F) 10.9 11.1 Região Autónoma dos Açores (PT20)	0.1
Buildings (41) 2.9 3.1 Região Autónoma dos Açores (PT20)	0.2
Civil engineering (42) 1.3 Região Autónoma dos Açores (PT20)	0.2
Specialised construction activities (43) 5.2 5.3 Sjælland (DK02)	0.3

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Table 6.1: Average shares of non-financial business economy employment and most specialised regions by activity (NACE sections and divisions), by NUTS 2 region, 2009 (1) (cont.) (% share of non-financial business economy employment)

	Across EU regions		Most specialised region	
Activity (NACE)	Median share	Mean share	Name (NUTS 2 region)	Regional share of EU total
Distributive trades (G)	25.6	25.3	Ciudad Autónoma de Melilla (ES64)	0.0
Motor trades and repair (45)	3.1	3.1	Province/Provincie Luxembourg (BE34)	0.1
Wholesale trade (46)	7.5	7.6	Región de Murcia (ES62)	0.5
Retail trade (47)	14.9	15.0	Ciudad Autónoma de Melilla (ES64)	0.0
Transport and storage (H)	7.3	7.8	Åland (FI20)	0.0
Land transport and pipelines (49)	4.1	4.3	Lietuva (LT00)	1.4
Water transport (50)	0.0	0.3	Åland (FI20)	1.8
Air transport (51)	0.0	0.2	Outer London (UKI2)	11.5
Supporting transport activities (52)	1.6	1.8	Bremen (DE50)	1.1
Postal and courier activities (53)	1.2	1.3	Köln (DEA2)	12.2
Accommodation and food service activities (I)	7.7	8.1	Algarve (PT15)	0.4
Accommodation (55)	1.6	2.2	Provincia Autonoma Bolzano/Bozen (ITD1)	1.1
Food and beverage service activities (56)	5.8	6.0	Algarve (PT15)	0.3
Information and communication (J)	2.7	3.5	Région de Bruxelles-Capitale/Brussels Hoofdstedelijk Gewest (BE10)	0.9
Publishing activities (58)	0.5	0.6	Inner London (UKI1)	7.1
Multimedia publishing (59)	0.2	0.2	Inner London (UKI1)	13.0
Programming and broadcasting (60)	0.1	0.2	Ciudad Autónoma de Ceuta (ES63)	0.1
Telecommunications (61)	0.5	0.7	Köln (DEA2)	9.7
Computer activities (62)	1.2	1.6	Utrecht (NL31)	1.7
Information service activities (63)	0.2	0.3	Wien (AT13)	1.8
Real estate activities (L)	1.9	2.0	Latvija (LV00)	0.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities (M)	6.8	7.6	Inner London (UKI1)	4.7
Legal and accounting activities (69)	2.2	2.3	Inner London (UKI1)	5.8
Activities of head offices (70)	0.9	1.4	Inner London (UKI1)	7.8
Architectural and engineering activities (71)	2.0	2.1	North Eastern Scotland (UKM5)	1.0
Scientific research and development (72)	0.2	0.3	East Anglia (UKH1)	3.1
Advertising and market research (73)	0.5	0.7	Bratislavský kraj (SK01)	0.8
Other professional, scientific and technical activities (74)	0.6	0.7	Inner London (UKI1)	3.7
Veterinary activities (75)	0.1	0.2	Cumbria (UKD1)	0.5
Administrative and support service activities (N)	7.8	8.4	Lisboa (PT17)	1.9
Rental and leasing activities (77)	0.4	0.5	North Eastern Scotland (UKM5)	0.7
Employment activities (78)	1.8	2.6	Groningen (NL11)	0.7
Travel agency and related activities (79)	0.3	0.4	Illes Balears (ES53)	1.2
Security and investigation (80)	0.8	1.0	Yugozapaden (BG41)	3.3
Service to buildings and landscape activities (81)	2.7	2.8	Ciudad Autónoma de Melilla (ES64)	0.0
Other administrative and business activities (82)	1.1	1.2	Mellersta Norrland (SE32)	0.2
Repair of computers and personal and household goods (95)	0.3	0.3	Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire (UKG1)	1.0

(¹) Excluding Greece, France and Malta; NACE Divisions 41 to 43, not available for Spanish regions. *Source*: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_r_nuts06_r2)



Inner London in the United Kingdom was the most specialised region for publishing activities and multimedia publishing (divisions 58 and 59), while Köln was the most specialised in telecommunications, boosted by the presence of Deutsche Telekom's headquarters in Bonn. Latvia was the most specialised region for real estate activities in 2009, ahead of Inner London (United Kingdom), Rheinhessen-Pfalz (Germany) and Közép-Magyarország (the capital city region of Hungary). British regions were the most specialised in nearly all of the professional scientific and technical activities: Inner London for legal and accounting activities, activities of head offices and other professional, scientific and technical activities; East Anglia (which includes Cambridge) in scientific research and development; Cumbria for veterinary services and North Eastern Scotland (which provides services for the North Sea oil and gas platforms) for architectural and engineering activities. The Slovakian capital city region of Bratislavský kraj was the most specialised region for advertising and market research.

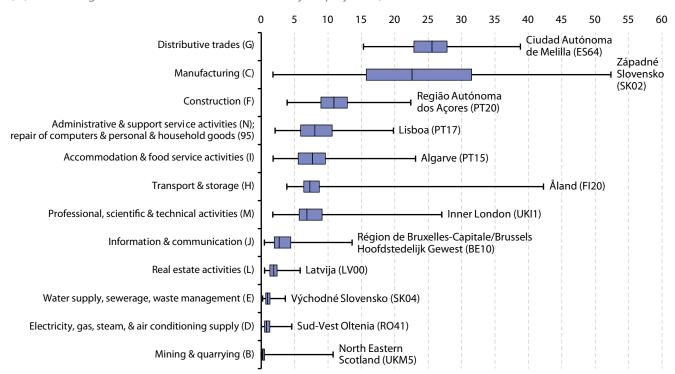
The Portuguese capital city region of Lisboa was most specialised in administrative and support service activities (NACE Section N). At a more detailed level, Groningen (Netherlands) was particularly specialised in employment activities (division 78).

Range of specialisation

Figure 6.1 provides an overview of the relative importance among the EU regions of various activities (at the NACE section level) in the non-financial business economy workforce. For each activity, the horizontal lines indicate the spread from the region with the lowest share of its non-financial business economy workforce in that activity to the region with the highest share; the region with the highest share is named in the figure. The extremes of the highest and lowest shares can be influenced by a single region, and the coloured box shows a narrower range, defined to cover half of the regions (the inter-quartile range), with one quarter of all regions having a higher employment share in that activity and one quarter of the regions having a lower share. The central bar within the coloured box shows the value of the median region. The activities are ranked from the largest employer (distributive trades) to the smallest (mining and quarrying).

The situation in manufacturing is particular in several ways. The range between least and most specialised is very large for manufacturing as is the width of the coloured box, indicating a very varied importance of manufacturing. In contrast, the employment spread for large, basic activities, like construction and distributive trades, which tend to serve more local

Figure 6.1: Regional specialisation by activity, by NUTS 2 regions, EU, 2009 (1) (%, share of regional non-financial business economy employment)



⁽⁾ Minimum and maximum share (vertical lines at the extremes); inter-quartile range (box); median share (vertical line within the box); excluding Greece, France and Malta. Source: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_r_nuts06_r2)

clients, was much narrower, both in terms of the spread of the extreme values (shown by the horizontal lines) and in terms of the spread of the inter-quartile range (the coloured box containing half of the regions).

Manufacturing accounted for only 1.8 % of the total number of persons employed in the non-financial business economy in the region where it had its smallest share; however, in Západné Slovensko (Slovakia) it accounted for 52.3 % of non-financial business economy employment; manufacturing also exceeded a 40 % share in Střední Morava and Severovýchod (Czech Republic), Stredné Slovensko and Východné Slovensko (Slovakia), Severen tsentralen (Bulgaria), Közép-Dunántúl (Hungary) and Vzhodna Slovenija (Slovenia).

In contrast, the spread of employment was much narrower in distributive trades (NACE Section G), which was the activity displaying the highest median employment share, and was present on a relatively large scale in all regions as it often serves local clients. Employment shares for distributive trades ranged from 15.3% to close to two fifths (38.8%) in the Ciudad Autónoma de Melilla (Spain).

Transport and storage (NACE Section H) and mining and quarrying (NACE Section B) are also activities where a few regions are very highly specialised. The highest specialisation for transport and storage was in the small Finnish island region of Åland, where more than two fifths of the workforce (42.3%) was employed in this sector, far ahead of Köln in Germany (18.8%); the specialisation in Åland is due almost exclusively to the importance of water transport. Natural endowments play an important role in mining and quarrying and, as such, many regions record little or no such activity, with only very few regions being highly specialised on account of deposits of metallic ores, coal, oil or gas. Mining and quarrying accounted for 0.1% or less of the total number of persons employed in the non-financial business economy workforces of a quarter of all regions, and between 0.1% and 0.5% of employment in half of all the regions. However, this activity did account for over 4% of the non-financial business economy workforce in five regions, while its share rose to around 10% of the total in North Eastern Scotland (United Kingdom) and Śląskie (Poland). In Agder og Rogaland (Norway) mining and quarrying accounted for 17.2% of non-financial business economy employment.

Business concentration

The analysis of specialisation (above) shows the relative importance of an individual activity in a region, regardless of the size of the region or the activity. Figure 6.2 shows the extent to which a particular activity is concentrated in a small number of regions or more widely spread. Four of the five mining and quarrying divisions topped the rankings in terms of having the most concentrated number of persons employed within the 10 largest regions across the EU. By this measure the most concentrated activity was the mining of

metal ores (NACE Division 07): the entire workforce of the EU in this sector was concentrated in less than one quarter of all regions, with no employment in this activity in the remaining three quarters.

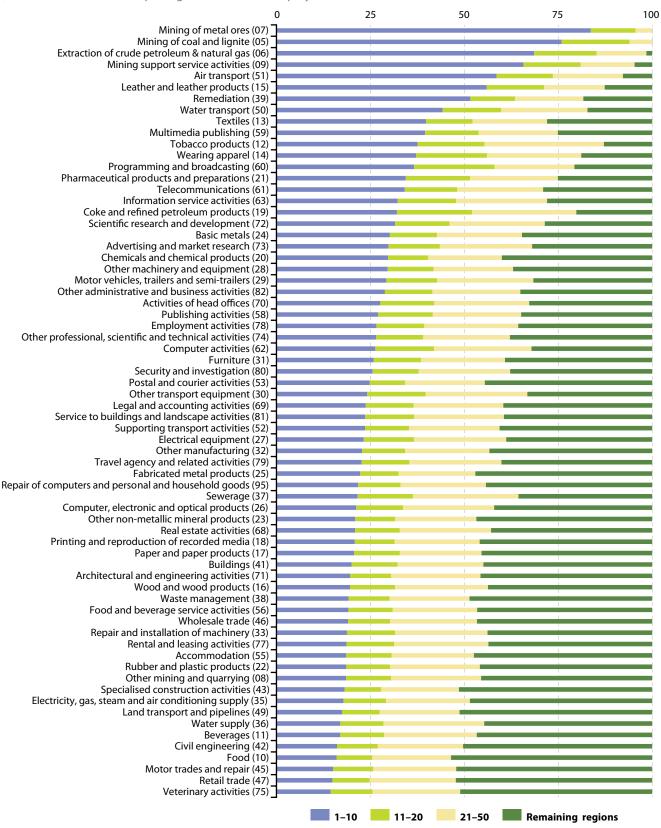
Air transport (NACE Division 51) and leather and leather products manufacturing (NACE Division 15) were also highly concentrated in the 10 largest regions, which together accounted for 59% and 56% of their total employment respectively. In the case of air transport, this dominance is due to a concentration within large metropolitan regions, where main airports tend to be situated: chief among these were the regions of Paris, Outer London, Köln, Amsterdam and Madrid. Leather and leather products manufacturing, on the other hand, is a relatively small activity in the EU that is heavily concentrated in Italy, Portugal and Romania.

In contrast to the energy and metals-related types of mining and quarrying, the activity of other mining and quarrying (NACE Division 08) was among the activities in which the 10 largest regions were least dominant, as they accounted for 18.5 % of EU-27 sectoral employment. This is due to the widespread availability and local sourcing of many construction materials, such as sand, clay and stone, which dominate this type of mining and quarrying activity in most regions. Of all the activities (NACE divisions), motor trades and repair (NACE Division 45), retail trade (NACE Division 47) and veterinary activities (NACE Division 75) had the lowest levels of concentration in 2009; the two distributive trades activities are both major activities in terms of their overall contribution to the level of non-financial business economy employment in the EU.

Map 6.3 presents a different aspect of concentration; namely the extent to which a region is dependent on a small number of large activities, or, alternatively, whether it displays the characteristics of being more diversified. The map is based on an indicator that combines the shares of the five largest activities (NACE divisions) in the total non-financial business economy workforce in each region: the five largest activities are selected independently for each region, although there are several, such as retail trade, that are found in nearly all regions. As a result, the level of concentration tends to be highest in regions where construction, distributive trades or other services dominate the business economy, as industrial activities are more fragmented. By this measure, the most concentrated regions were generally in Member States traditionally associated with tourism, in particular Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Austria and Portugal, underlining the importance of construction, trade, transport, and accommodation and food service activities in tourism-oriented regions. There were 23 regions at the NUTS level 2 that reported in excess of 47 % of their non-financial employment spread across their five largest activities.

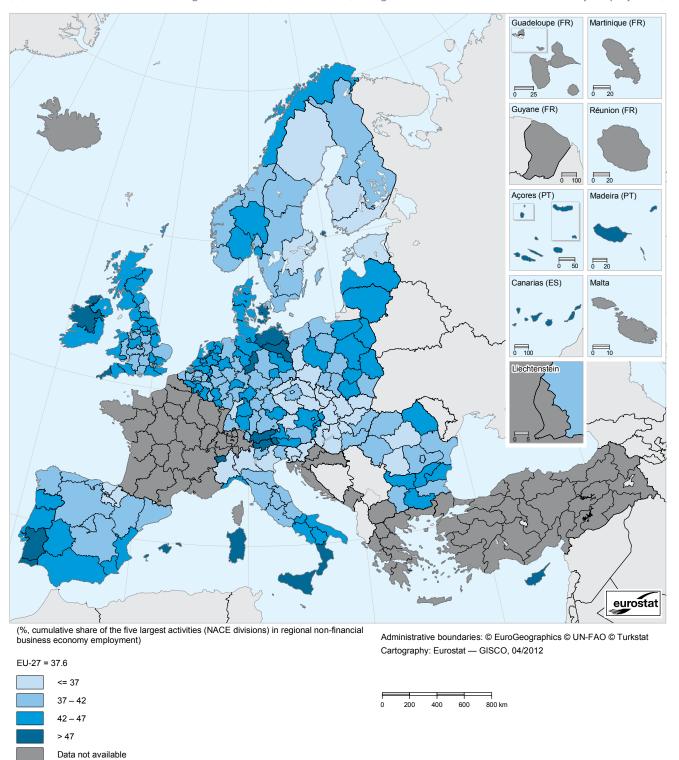
In contrast, the lowest concentrations were recorded mainly in regions with a relatively small services sector and a relatively large manufacturing activity; this was often the case in

Figure 6.2: Concentration of activities (NACE divisions), by NUTS 2 regions, EU, 2009 (¹) (%, cumulative share of top X regions in sectoral employment)



(¹) Excluding Greece, France and Malta; NACE Divisions 41 to 43, not available for Spanish regions. Source: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_r_nuts06_r2)

Map 6.3: Regional business concentration, by NUTS 2 regions, 2009 (¹) (%, cumulative share of the five largest activities (NACE divisions) in regional non-financial business economy employment)



(¹) NACE Divisions 41 to 43, not available for Spanish regions. Source: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_r_nuts06_r2)

eastern Europe, in particular in Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Slovenia and Slovakia. The five largest activities accounted for as little as one third of non-financial business economy employment in five regions in the Czech Republic and in the Comunidad Foral de Navarra in Spain.

Data sources and availability

Regional SBS are collected under a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council, using the definitions and breakdowns specified in Commission implementing regulations. Data available for the reference year 2009, at the time of writing, cover most of the EU Member States, Norway and Croatia; data series are continuously updated and revised where necessary.

The regional SBS data presented in this chapter are restricted to the non-financial business economy, which includes NACE Sections B (mining and quarrying), C (manufacturing), D (electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply), E (water supply, sewerage and waste management), F (construction), G (distributive trades), H (transport and storage), I (accommodation and food service activities), J (information and communication), L (real estate activities), M (professional, scientific and technical activities) and N (administrative and support service activities), as well as NACE Division 95 (repair of computers and personal and household goods). The aggregate for the non-financial business economy therefore excludes agricultural, forestry and fishing activities and public administration and other non-market services (such as education and health, which are not covered by SBS) as well as financial services (NACE Section K). Regional SBS are presented by sectors of activity, available down to the NACE 2-digit (divisions) level.

The type of statistical unit used for regional SBS data is normally the local unit, which is an enterprise or part of an

enterprise situated in a geographically identified place. Local units are classified into sectors (by NACE) normally according to their own main activity, but in some Member States the activity code is assigned on the basis of the principal activity of the enterprise to which the local unit belongs. The main SBS data series are presented at national level only, and for this national data the statistical unit is the enterprise. It is possible for the principal activity of a local unit to differ from that of the enterprise to which it belongs. Hence, national SBS data from the main series are not necessarily directly comparable with national aggregates compiled from regional SBS.

The main variable used for analysis in this chapter is the number of persons employed. For SBS, this is defined as the total number of persons who work (paid or unpaid) in the observation unit, as well as persons who work outside the unit but who belong to it and are paid by it. The number of persons employed includes working proprietors, unpaid family workers, part-time workers and seasonal workers.

Further information

For further information about SBS please consult Eurostat's website at http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/european_business/introduction.

Context

Regional SBS offer users who want to know more about the structure and development of the regional business economy a detailed, harmonised data source, describing for each activity the number of workplaces, number of persons employed, wage costs and investments made. This chapter shows how some of these data can be used to analyse different regional business characteristics, for example, the focus, diversity and specialisation of regional business economies.