



# Regional statistics (72)

**EUROSTAT Unit D-2**

**Regional indicators and geographical information**

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## REGIONAL STATISTICS

# 1. GENERAL BACKGROUND

- Regional statistics is needed for the regional policy, the competition policy, agricultural policy and other policies of the EU
- Eligibility areas are selected on the basis of regional statistical indicators, of which regional GDP/capita is the most important



# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 2. THE ACQUIS

### NUTS Regulation 1059/2003 (EU)



# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 2. NUTS Regulation

### Rules for managing the NUTS

- Annex 1 – list of regions
- Annex 2 – administrative/non-administrative status by NUTS level
- Annex 3 – smaller territorial units



# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 2. NUTS Regulation

### Population thresholds for NUTS levels

NUTS 1 – 3 000 000 to 7 000 000

NUTS 2 – 800 000 to 3 000 000

NUTS 3 – 150 000 to 800 000

Administrative regions: average size

Non-administrative regions: each region has to comply with thresholds



# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 2. NUTS Regulation

### Stability

- Avoid breaks in statistical time series
- Rules for how to modify the annexes
- At least 3 years of stability
- Non-administrative regions – change only if standard deviation in terms of population is reduced



# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 2. NUTS Regulation

### How to agree on regions

- The statistical office in the candidate country sends a proposal for regions to Eurostat
- Eurostat will judge the proposal
- When it is agreed, Eurostat will publish the new regions on its web site

Statistical regions are agreed for both Croatia and Turkey



# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 2. NUTS Regulation

### When to agree on regions

- As candidate country
  - Statistical regions at 3 levels – similar to NUTS, but no legal requirement
  - Rules in NUTS regulation are guiding Eurostat when assessing a proposal for statistical regions
- On day of accession to EU
  - NUTS Regulation is amended with regions in the new Member State





# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 2. Regional data

- Regional statistics in 12 domains
- Collected by thematic units of Eurostat
- Mixed: legislation – voluntary base
- NUTS level 2 = the most important level
- Length of time series depends on the domain



## REGIONAL STATISTICS

# 3. MOST PROBLEMATIC ISSUES

Both Croatia and Turkey should start sending the regional data (June 2006)



# REGIONAL STATISTICS

## 4. FUTURE ACQUIS

- Regional data requirements are monitored by the thematic units at Eurostat
- No overview is provided here