



Brussels, 23.7.2014
SWD(2014) 242 final

PART 9/23

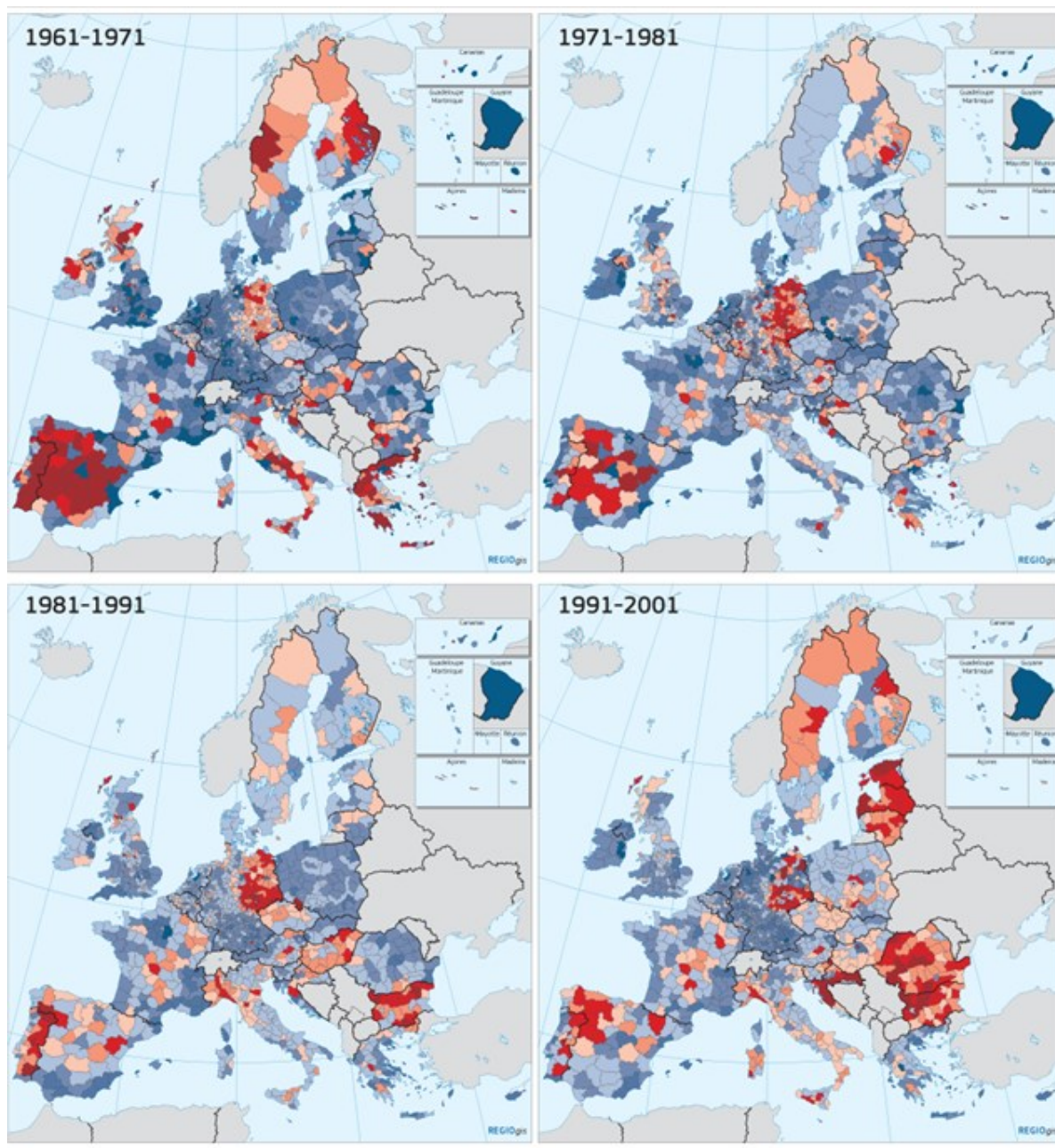
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COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION

Sixth report on economic, social and territorial cohesion: Investing in Europe's Future

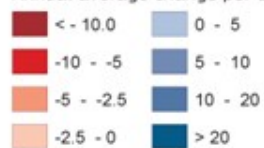
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Map 1 Population change, 1961-2001



Population change, 1961-2001

Annual average change per 1000 inhabitants



Sources: NSIs, DG REGIO

These changes in population growth were accompanied by changes in the degree of urbanisation in the EU. Compared to the rest of the world, the EU, especially the EU-15, was already highly urbanised in 1961. In the 50 years since, the proportion of the population in the EU-15 living in cities (42%) has not changed (Table 12). Between 1961 and 1991, the population living in towns and suburbs increased from 28% to 32% and the proportion in rural areas fell from 30% to 25%. Since 1991, the proportions have remained broadly unchanged. Accordingly, 70% of the population in the EU-15 lived in urban areas (cities, towns and suburbs) in 1961, this rising to 75% in 1991 and remaining at this level up to 2011.

In the EU-13, the degree of urbanisation is less. In 2011, 60% of the population lived in urban areas, though this was significantly more than 50 years earlier (45%). As in the EU-15, almost all the increase occurred between 1961 and 1991, though in contrast to the EU-15, the increase occurred in both cities (from 25% to 34%) and towns and suburbs (from 20% to 25%). Between 1991 and 2011, the proportions changed relatively little, with only a small increase in towns and suburbs.

Table 1 Population by degree of urbanisation, 1961-2011

		<i>1961</i>	<i>1971</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>1991</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2011</i>
<i>EU-15</i>	<i>Cities</i>	<i>42.4</i>	<i>43.6</i>	<i>43.4</i>	<i>42.9</i>	<i>42.2</i>	<i>42.3</i>
	<i>Towns and suburbs</i>	<i>27.8</i>	<i>29.5</i>	<i>31.0</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>32.5</i>	<i>32.6</i>
	<i>Rural areas</i>	<i>29.8</i>	<i>26.9</i>	<i>25.6</i>	<i>25.3</i>	<i>25.3</i>	<i>25.0</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
<i>EU-13</i>	<i>Cities</i>	<i>25.4</i>	<i>29.0</i>	<i>32.6</i>	<i>34.2</i>	<i>33.9</i>	<i>33.8</i>
	<i>Towns and suburbs</i>	<i>19.7</i>	<i>21.4</i>	<i>23.1</i>	<i>24.5</i>	<i>25.1</i>	<i>25.7</i>
	<i>Rural areas</i>	<i>55.0</i>	<i>49.6</i>	<i>44.3</i>	<i>41.4</i>	<i>41.0</i>	<i>40.4</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
<i>EU-28</i>	<i>Cities</i>	<i>38.6</i>	<i>40.3</i>	<i>40.9</i>	<i>40.9</i>	<i>40.4</i>	<i>40.5</i>
	<i>Towns and suburbs</i>	<i>26.0</i>	<i>27.7</i>	<i>29.2</i>	<i>30.1</i>	<i>30.8</i>	<i>31.2</i>
	<i>Rural areas</i>	<i>35.5</i>	<i>32.0</i>	<i>29.9</i>	<i>29.0</i>	<i>28.8</i>	<i>28.3</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>

Note Only partial data for Portugal and Slovenia

Source: Time series of LAU2 population data, NSI, DG REGIO / Spatial Foresight

4.2. Net migration is the main source of population growth in the 2000s

Total population growth between 2001 and 2011 was modest at 3.8% in the EU-28. The contribution of natural growth (births less deaths) was small (only 0.4%), most of the increase coming from net inward migration from outside the EU.

Whereas migration (inside as well as from outside the EU) increased population in all types of region in the EU-15, it did so in urban regions in the EU-13 and since the natural change was negative in all three types of region, growth occurred only in urban regions (Table 13).

In the EU-15, the natural change in population was negative in rural regions but positive in intermediate and, most especially, urban ones, which is the main reason why population in urban regions grew twice as fast as in rural regions.

Table 2 Population change, natural change and net migration by urban-rural typology, 2001-2011

Population change, natural change and net migration by urban-rural typology, 2001-2011				
	<i>Predominantly urban</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>Predominantly rural</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Total change in %</i>				
<i>EU-13</i>				
Total population change	0.6	-1.1	-3.9	-1.9
Natural population change	-1.2	-0.7	-1.8	-1.3
Net migration	1.8	-0.4	-2.2	-0.6
<i>EU-15</i>				
Total population change	6.8	4.7	3.1	5.4
Natural population change	2.6	0.5	-0.6	1.3
Net migration	4.1	4.2	3.7	4.1
<i>EU-28</i>				
Total population change	6.1	3.3	0.4	3.8
Natural population change	2.2	0.2	-1.0	0.7
Net migration	3.8	3.1	1.5	3.0

Source: Eurostat

Children (those under 15) make up a smaller share of population in the EU-13 than the EU-15 and are more concentrated in rural regions in the former and urban regions in the latter (Table 14). The proportion of older people (those of 65 and over) is significantly higher in the EU-15 than the EU-13. In the EU-15, they are considerably more concentrated in rural regions than in the EU-13 where they are spread evenly between the three types of region.

Table 3 Population age structure by urban-rural typology, 2012

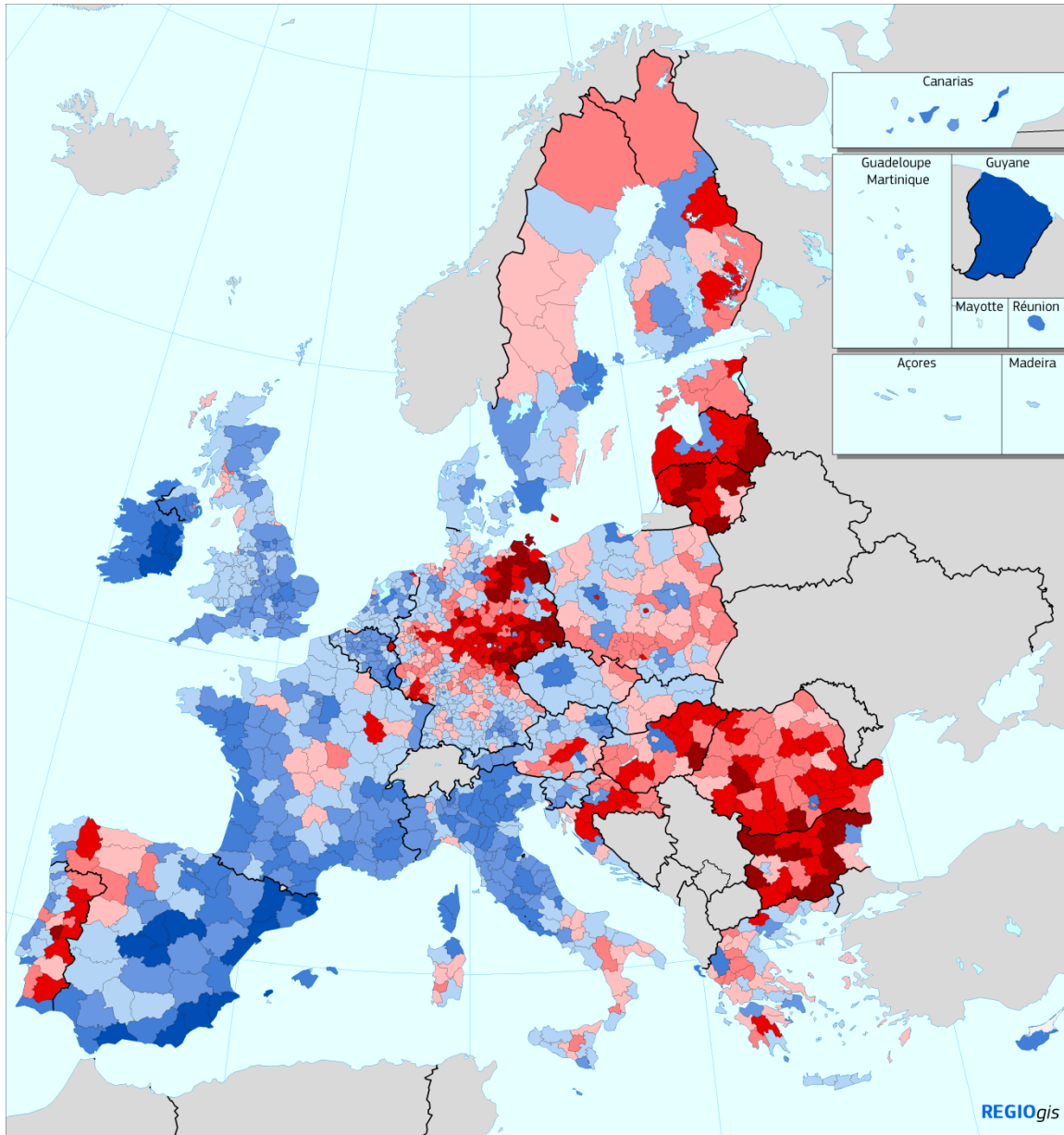
	Predominantly Urban	Intermediate	Predominantly Rural	Total
<hr/>				
% of total population				
		<i>EU-13</i>		
population aged 14 or less	14.0	15.0	15.2	14.9
population aged 65 or more	15.6	14.8	15.7	15.3
		<i>EU-15</i>		
population aged 14 or less	16.2	15.4	15.4	15.8
population aged 65 or more	17.2	19.3	20.4	18.5
		<i>EU-28</i>		
population aged 14 or less	16.0	15.3	15.3	15.6
population aged 65 or more	17.0	18.2	18.6	17.8
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Source: EUROSTAT, DG

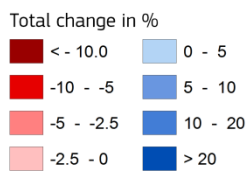
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MT data are 2010 and DE8, ES63 and ES7 regions are 2011

Map 2 Total population change, 2001-2011



Total population change, 2001-2011



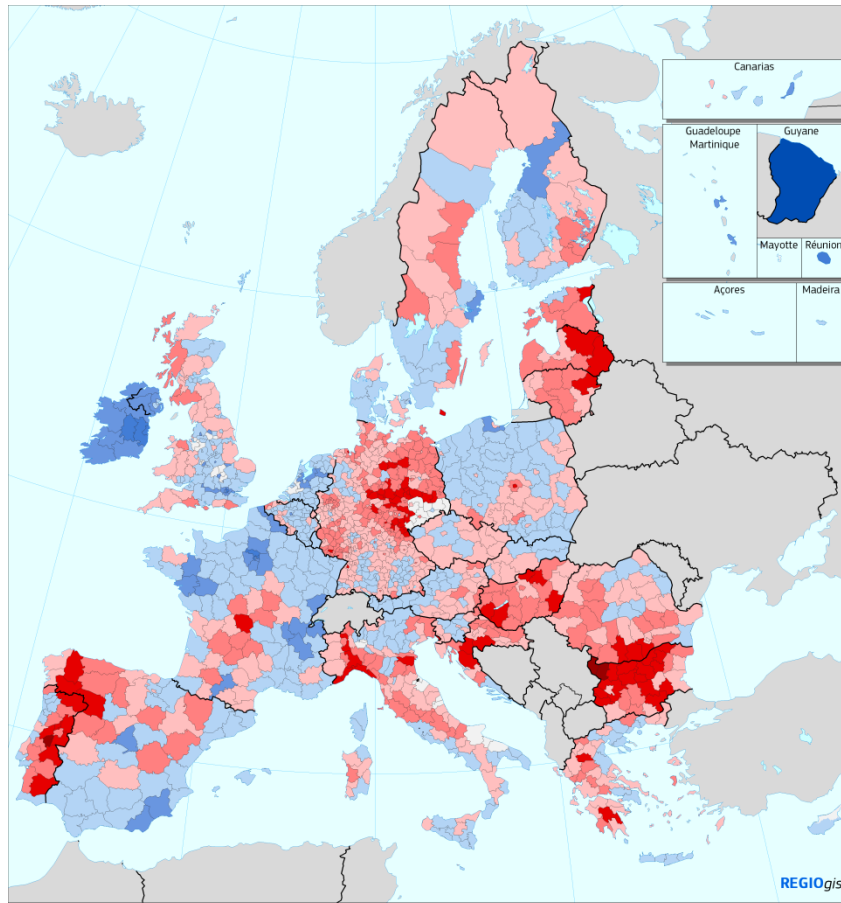
EU-28 = 3.39
HR: 2002-2011

Source: Eurostat

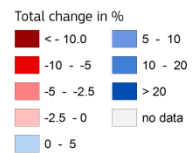


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Map 3 Natural population growth, 2001-2011



Natural population growth, 2001-2011

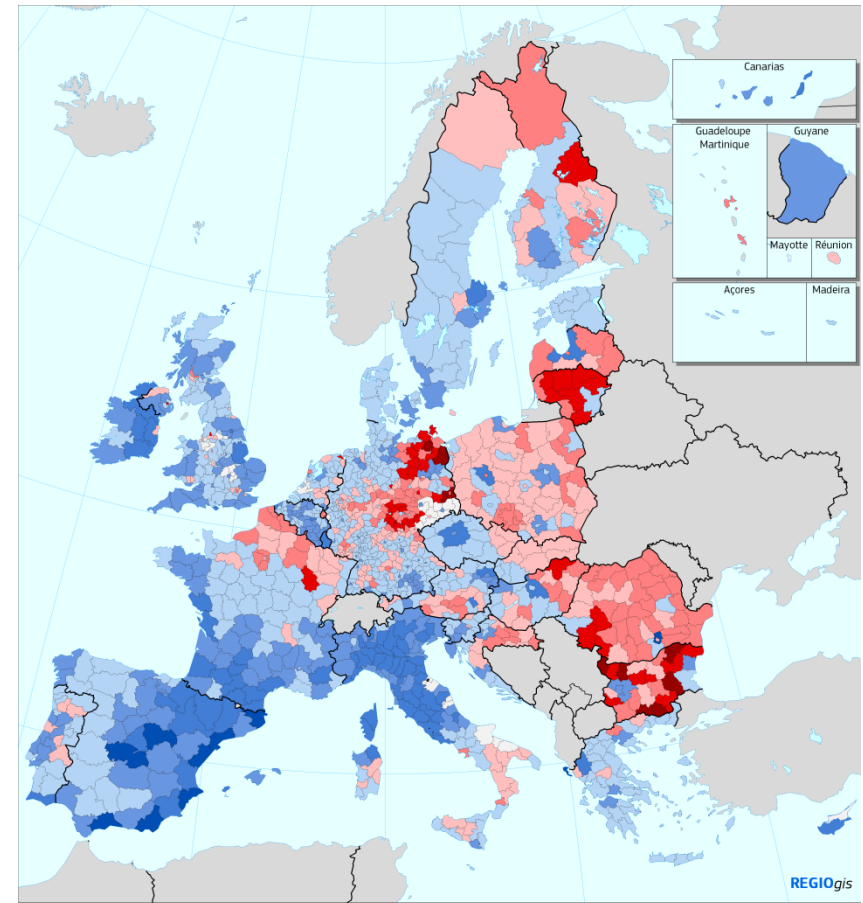


EU-28 = 0.75
 HR: 2002-2011
 Source: Eurostat

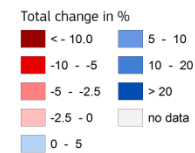


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Map 4 Net migration, 2001-2011



Net migration into NUTS 3 regions, 2001-2011



EU-28 = 2.64
 HR: 2002-2011
 Source: Eurostat



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Population in the EU-13 border regions shrank over the last decade

Between 2001 and 2011, population in the ‘terrestrial’ border regions¹ in the EU-13 shrank by more than the other EU-13 regions (by 3% as against 1% - Table 15). This was primarily due to net outward migration which reduced the population by 1.5% over the period, while in the rest of the EU-13 outward migration was matched by inward. There was a natural reduction in population in both areas, but more so in the terrestrial border regions.

In the EU-15, by contrast, population increased significantly between 2001 and 2011 (by 5%) as a result of both natural growth and, more especially, net inward migration. Growth of population in the terrestrial border regions (at 4%) was only slightly less than in the rest of the EU-15 due to both a natural increase and net inward migration.

On average, terrestrial border regions in the EU-13, therefore, seem less attractive places to move to and/or to start a family in than other parts of the EU-13 or EU-15.

Table 4 - Population change, natural change and net migration in terrestrial border regions, 2001-2011

	<i>Terrestrial Border regions</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Change over 10 years in %</i>			
		EU-13	
Total population change	-3.10	-0.99	-1.89
Natural population change	-1.66	-1.00	-1.26
Net migration	-1.46	0.01	-0.64
		EU-15	
Total population change	4.05	5.56	5.41
Natural population change	0.74	1.49	1.30
Net migration	3.29	4.01	4.06
		EU-28	
Total population change	0.91	4.54	3.78
Natural population change	-0.30	1.11	0.74
Net migration	1.22	3.40	3.02

Source: Eurostat, DG REGIO

¹ ‘Terrestrial’ border regions, are NUTS-3 regions which are eligible for Cross-border Co-operation programmes under the ERDF Regulation, excluding those which have only a maritime border (see http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Regional_typologies_overview)