

Regional differentiation of fertility in the Visegrád Four countries at NUTS 2 level in the period 1993–2016

Abstract

Bachelor's thesis deals with the regional differentiation of selected fertility characteristics in the Visegrad Four countries between 1993 and 2016. Part of the thesis is dedicated to discussing reproductive behaviour changes in former socialist countries which started in the 1990s. The thesis puts an emphasis on the clarification of the causes of these changes, with the second demographic transition and economic changes mainly discussed. The section analysing regional differentiation of fertility is conducted at NUTS 0 level for single years and at NUTS 2 level using eight three-year periods. Regional differentiation of the rate, timing and age structure of fertility is analysed. During most of the period examined, convergence of the rate and timing of fertility occurred. Some regions as regions of capital cities were distinguished by different fertility characteristics. During the analysed period there is a noticeable significant shift in fertility age structure towards higher ages in all regions, and this gradually affected fertility rate in all of them.

Keywords: regional differentiation, fertility, Visegrad Group, rate, timing