

Abstract

Socio-spatial differentiation is a natural phenomenon observable in almost all scales. However, the causes and consequences of this phenomenon can be different in particular areas or the era. Income inequality has increased in the Czech Republic since 1989, as well as unemployment and various social problems, which are reflected in the social environment of villages and towns as well as in municipal decision-making. The aim of the diploma thesis is to identify social (educational) differentiation at several spatial hierarchy levels. The main part of the thesis emphasizes understanding the evolution of socio-spatial differentiation at local level in micro-region České Budějovice from 1989 to the present using the education level of the population and identifies areas with positive and negative development. The education is considered as the indicator of socio-economic status, human capital or relative income. The intention of the thesis is to identify the areas with higher concentration of people with higher and lower socio-economic status and also find the main factors and mechanisms that create these spatial patterns. This thesis works primarily with the census data. The diploma thesis also provides basic development maps of the population patterns with lower and higher social status from the nineties to the present and also contains maps showing areas with the most dynamic changes in the socio-spatial structure. The thesis also assesses the usability and comparability of the data for each census.

Keywords: socio-spatial structure, educational structure, education, micro-region České Budějovice, socio-economic status