

Structure of Industry in the North-western Counties of Romania

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The study examined the performance of the industrial sector of four counties (Arad, Bihor, Satu Mare, Sălaj) of north-western Romania. On the basis of the research are databases published by Ministry of Finance of Romania, the macro-indicators published by the Romanian National Statistical Institutes, and the database of the www.listafirme.ro site. Romania, as well as the whole of Central and Eastern Europe, are characterized by a greater weight of the industrial sector. Along with the decline of Western European industry, this region has been an important destination for emigration alongside Far East and Southeast Asia.

Romania's case is slightly different from its western neighbours. For domestic reasons and poor infrastructure, it was only around the turn of the millennium that it became involved in this process. Many investors have chosen the island-like knowledge centres, regional poles (eg. Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Timisoara), which appear as oases in the Romanian economic space. They, together with their universities, industrial tradition and airports, together with their suburban area, we're able to attract serious investors. Another group of investors relied on the proximity of relatively advanced road infrastructure in Hungary and focused their investments on the gateways of the north-western Romanian counties and near the border crossings. As a result, the Northwest counties have become the target of some high-value investments.

In our study, we intend to map the economic performance and structure of this region based on the following indicators:

- Company density data at municipal level
- Financial turnover of industrial companies by main sectors
- Employment

We intend to compare the obtained data with the infrastructure indicators and analyse them using network theory methods. We want to determine the industrial profile of smaller areas using a sector-level gravity model. All indicators have an overview map of the entire large region for the purpose of establishing the territorial profile.

Finally, we want to explain industrial performance through some infrastructure and social indicators. In the course of the statistical investigation, each indicator was individually compared to the financial performance of the industrial units by municipalities, correlation and regression were calculated using Excel Data Analysis. At the end of the investigation, a joint regression calculation was carried out using the R-software to determine the extent to which the examined indicators collectively explain the industrial financial performance.

Keywords: industry, north-western Romania, financial performance