

Structure of legal entities

Dimension - Institutional Arrangements

Associated Key Factor:

Political systems

Data Source:

Eurostat

Table: Correspondence between the NUTS level and the national administrative units.

L-2920 Luxembourg

http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/ramon/nuts/introannex_regions_en.html

<http://europa.eu.int/eurostat>

General Availability:

Reporting unit:

Reporting level: Regions

Reporting period: regularly

Data available from 2001

The indicator:

The regions of the European Union have been subdivided into NUTS nomenclature. These are based on the basis of institutional divisions currently in force in Member States.

Description

The NUTS division is a division often used for the regional disaggregation of statistics. However, given the context of its emergence it can also be used to provide information about the federal structure and degree of decentralisation.

How is it measured?

The NUTS division has been arrived at by reviewing the tasks allocated to territorial communities and taking into account factors such as the size of the population, historical experience, cultural identity and the economy. The NUTS subdivides each Member state into a whole NUTS 1 region based on major socio-economic regions grouping together basic regions.

NUTS 2 or basic regions are subdivided on the basis of framework generally used by Member states for the application of their regional policies.

NUTS 3 comprise local communities.

The present NUTS nomenclature, valid from 2001 subdivides the economic territory of the EU into 78 regions at NUTS 1 level, 210 regions at NUTS 2 level and 1092 regions at NUTS 3 level.

What are the advantages of the indicator?

Besides providing overview information on the structure of legal entities and the allocation of powers at sub-national level, it is the standard classification scheme in socio-economic analyses for regional differentiation.

What are the disadvantages of the Indicator?

Despite its original intention, the NUTS2 scheme does not always correspond to the political / administrative sub-divisions which in some countries tend to be more oriented to the NUTS3 level.

What is the policy relevance of the indicator?

The NUTS division is a division often used for regional disaggregation of statistics. However given the context of its emergence it can as such be used to provide information about the federal structure and degree of decentralisation.

The Indicator is relevant for the following pathways of the FORESIGHT FOR TRANSPORT exercise:

	Transport Impact	External Determining Variable	Intermediate Variable	Contextual Information
Greater power for European level of decision making	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A reorientation of European transport policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decentralization and effects on regional passenger transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More openness and participation in decision-making	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>