

## **Regional information Dél-Dunántúl (South-Transdanubia) / Hungary**

South-Transdanubia is a NUTS-3 region which consists of the three counties Baranya, Somogy and Tolna in southwestern Hungary sharing its southern border with Croatia. It also is bordered by the Danube and Drava Rivers and the Lake Balaton. It has a population of about 933,000 inhabitants which has been severely decreasing over the last decade due to a surplus of deaths and outmigration processes. The region is the most sparsely populated area in Hungary (66.1 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>) and is characterized by an unfavourable settlement structure, with an underdeveloped urban network, on the one hand, and the dominance of micro- and small settlements, on the other. The main centres are the counties' capitals Pécs, Kaposvár and Szekszárd, of which Pécs is the main economic and cultural centre of the region with approx. 157,000 inhabitants. South-Transdanubia is an underdeveloped and declining region with shrinking contribution to Hungary's GDP (from 7.4% to 6.5% between 2000 and 2008). The economy underwent a significant structural change with a huge cutback in the mining and industrial sector while the services sector grew and now constitutes a strong position within the regional economy. Although constantly declining, the agricultural sector still shows a high proportion in the economy (only outranked by the Southern Great Plain region). Too few new enterprises and a lack of dynamic economic development led to constantly growing unemployment rates since 2004 (6.9 % to 12.7 % in 2011) which were constantly at least 1 % higher than the national mean value (10.9 % in 2011). Women's unemployment rates were also constantly higher than the national averages (13.3 % to 10.9 % in 2011) but showed no permanent trend in comparison with the general unemployment rate in South-Transdanubia.

### **Sources**

Szalavetz, A. (2011): Regional Innovation Motor. Regional Innovation Report (South Transdanubia). To the European Commission Enterprise and Industry Directorate-General Directorate D – Industrial Innovation and Mobility Industries.

Eurostat

South Transdanubia Operational Programme

[http://www.vis-nova.eu/pdf/swot\\_analysis\\_-\\_south-transdanubia.pdf](http://www.vis-nova.eu/pdf/swot_analysis_-_south-transdanubia.pdf)