

## Differences by NUTS 2 Regions of Early School leavers

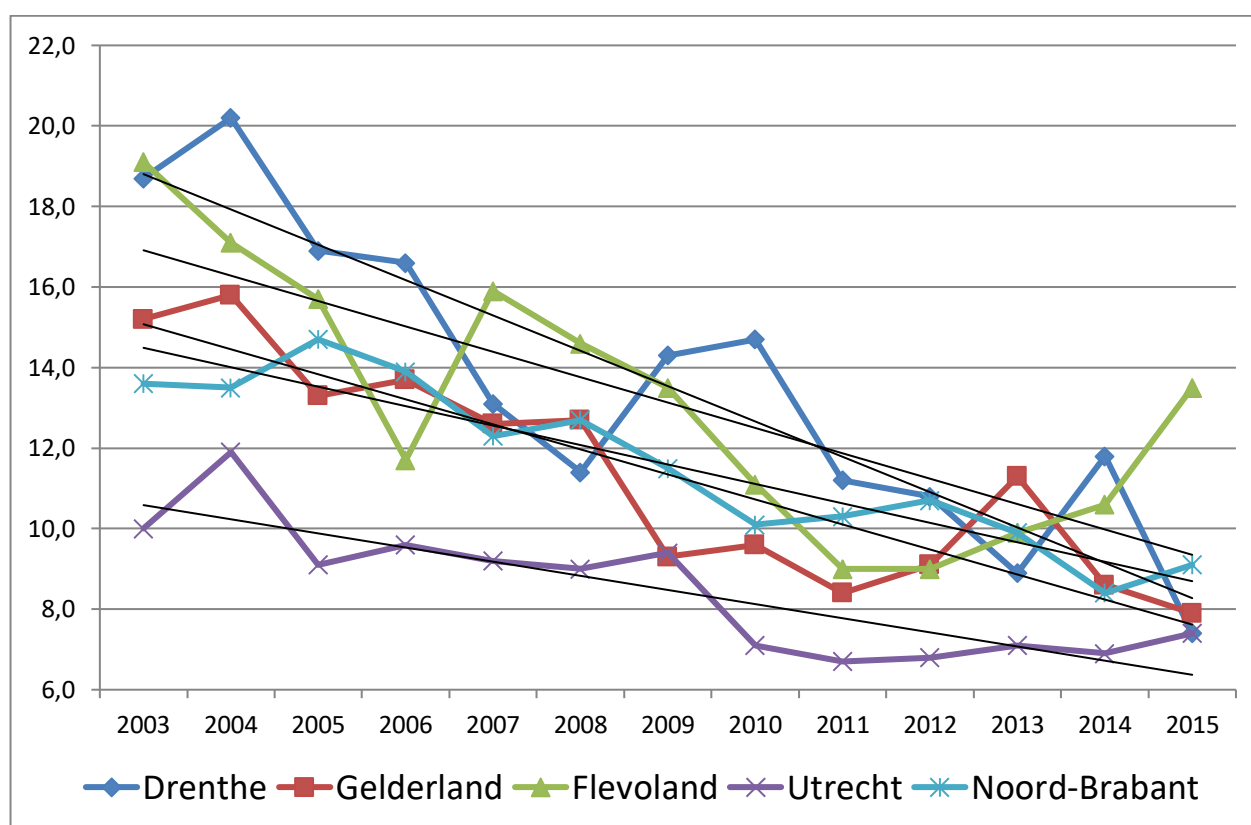
**Author:** György Mártonfi, Hungary

**Edited by** Eszter Szegedi

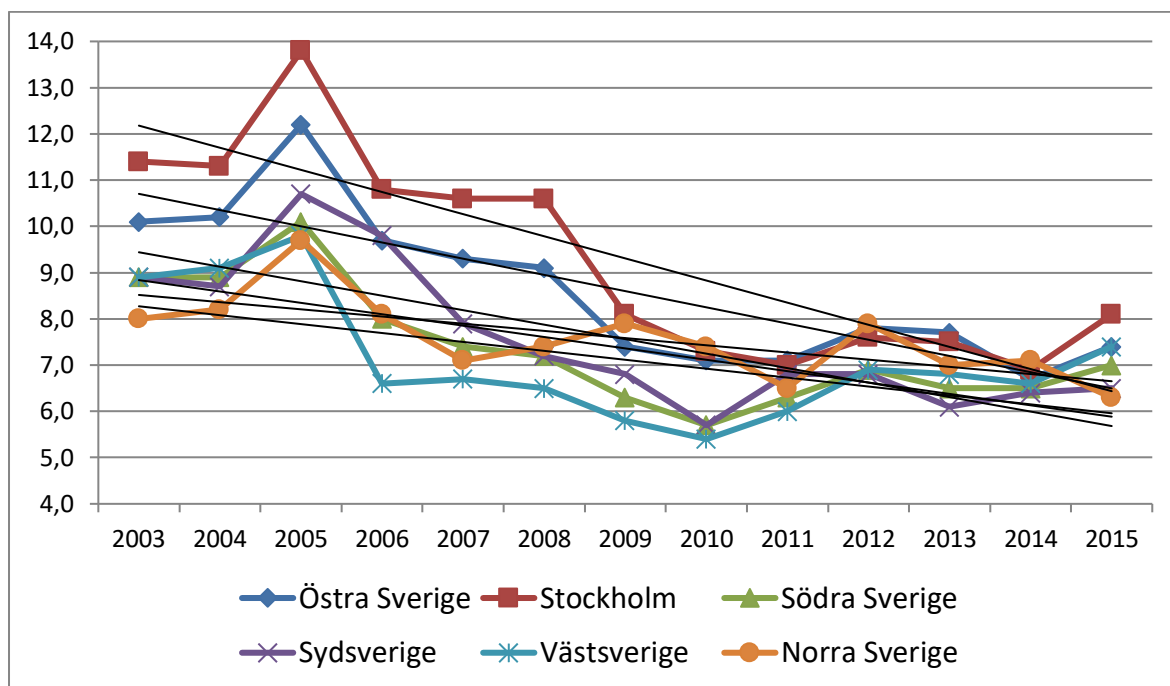
When studying regional data, it is important to know that regional samples are much smaller than country samples, therefore, the statistical error can be greater. That is why figures of regional data sets fluctuate in a more frenetic way than figures based on country level data. Assuming that average statistical errors are decreasing if we take time series, for regional trends, trend lines inform us the best. However, be cautious. It might happen that you get different trend lines if you analyse data of the last 8 or 15 years (see comment on Hungarian regions).

In order to have a “consumable” figure, we only took a 4 to 6 element subset of regions.

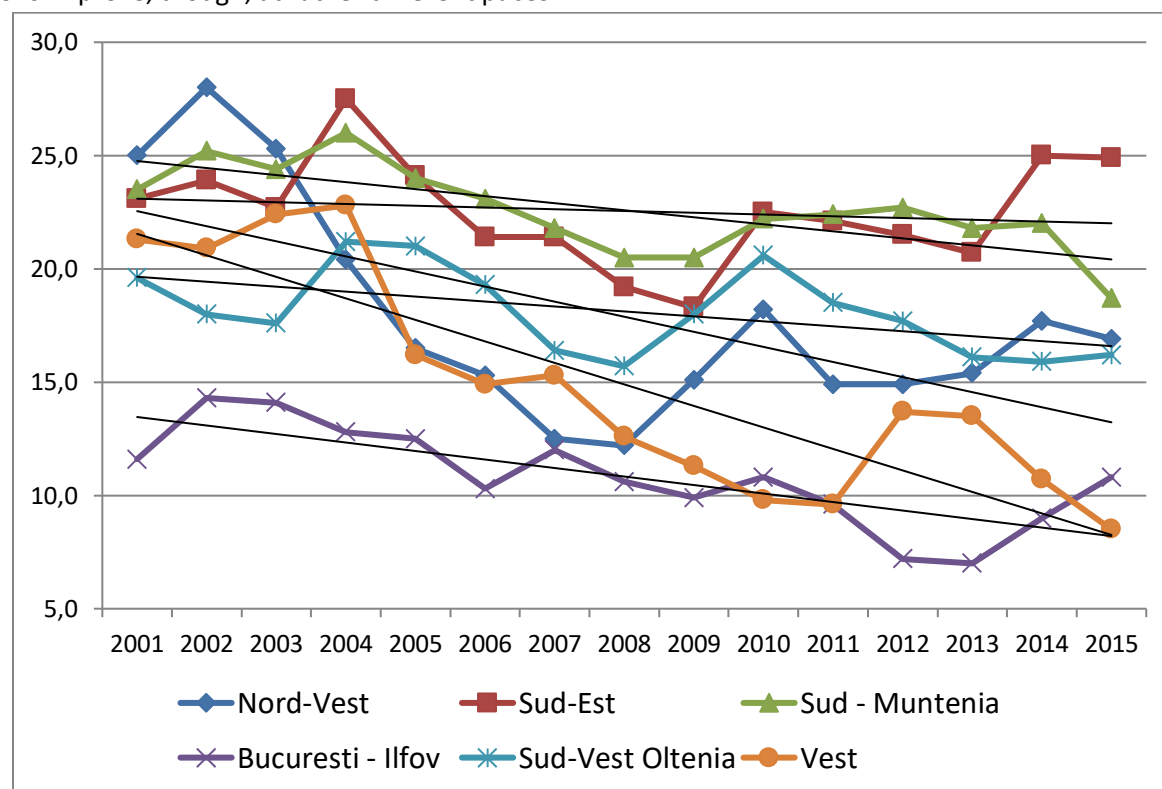
In the **Netherlands**, as in most Member States, all regions show improvement in the long run. We see all descending trend lines, although, the rates of improvement (the slope of trend lines) differ slightly. Differences between regions’ performance seem to have decreased in the last 12 years.



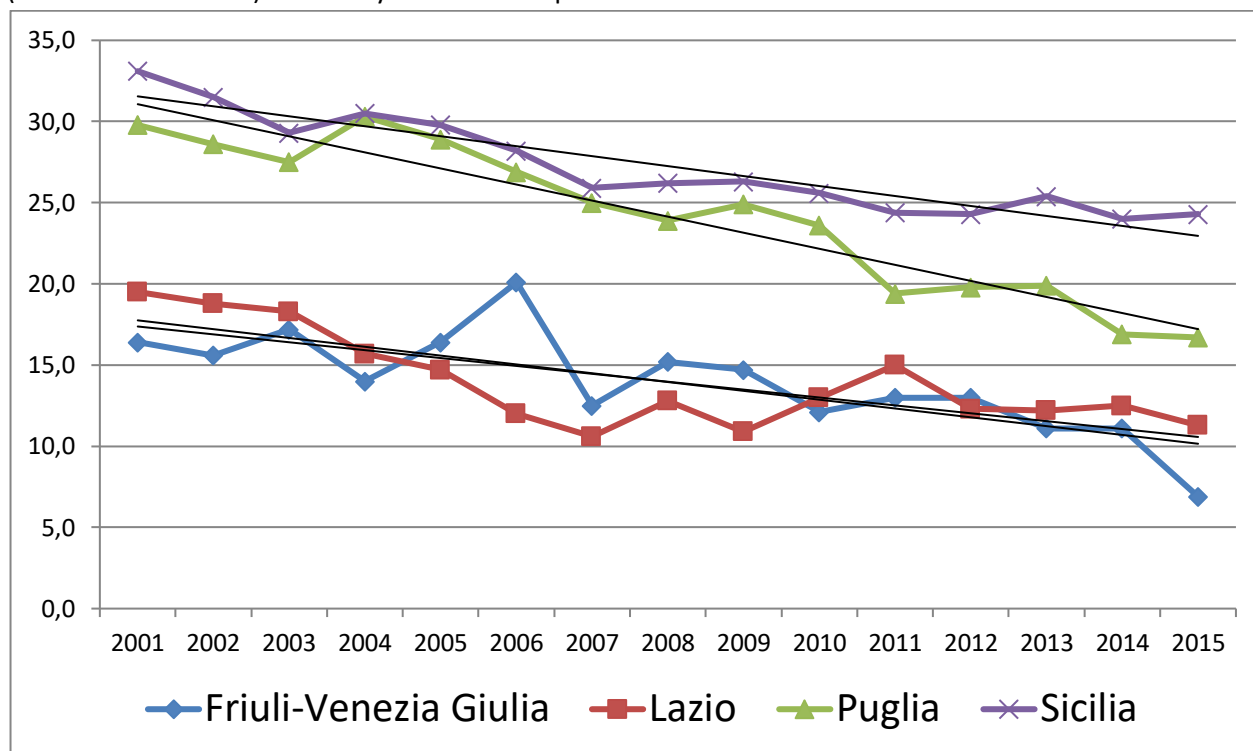
In **Sweden** regional inequalities are smaller than in most other countries and seem to show a decrease.



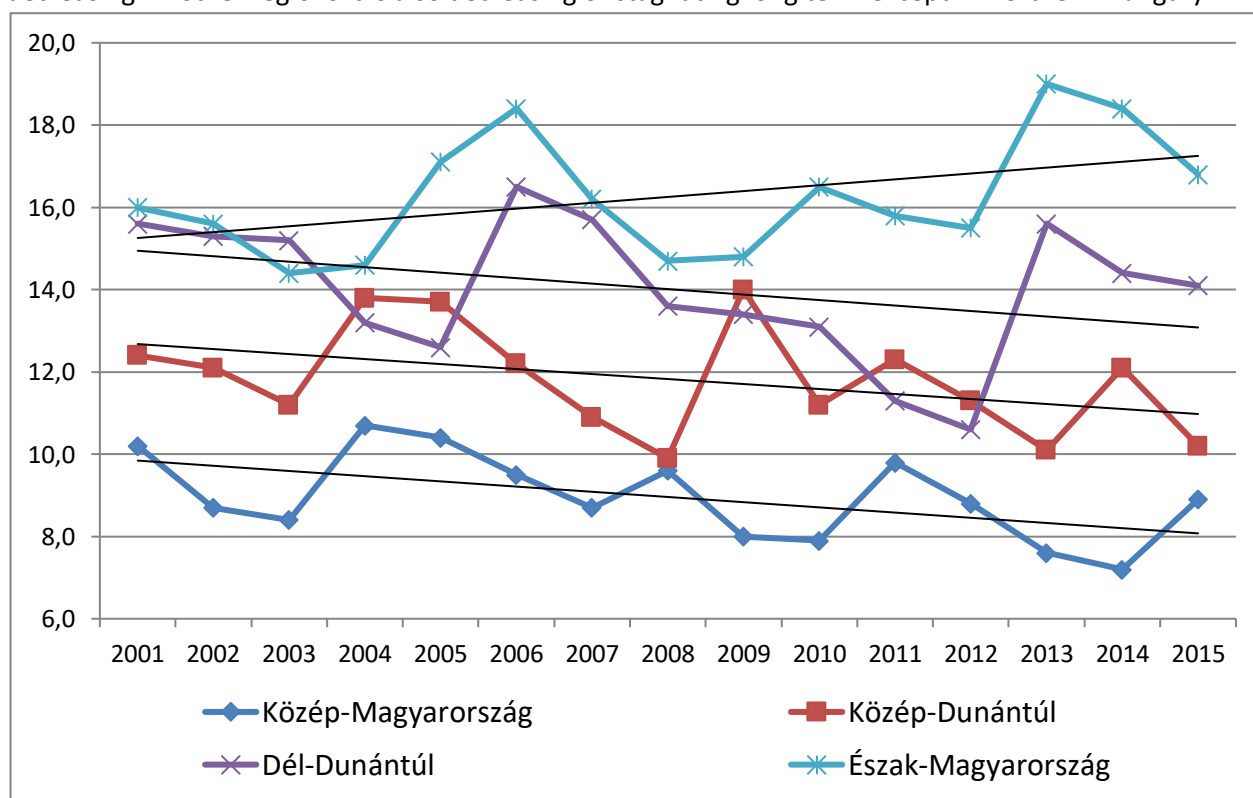
In **Romania** the worst performing regions have at least twice as high ELET-rates as the capital city. Incidentally, in most Eastern-European countries, capital cities have the best or one of the best results; see also Sweden where Stockholm's rate is the highest (though, an enviable 8.1%). It is remarkable that all regions improve, though, at rather different paces.



The ELET-rate of each **Italian region** is decreasing in the long run. However, inequality is high, in the underdeveloped Southern regions the ELET-rate might surpass 20 per cent while in the richest region (Friuli-Venezia Giulia) it recently fell below 10 per cent.



In **Hungary**, the ELET-rate in the Central Region (Budapest and suburbs) is below 10 per cent and slowly decreasing. In other regions it is also decreasing or stagnating long term except in Northern-Hungary.



When we only study data of the last 8 years from the economic crisis onwards, the picture is different. Increases of ELET-rates in the least developed Hungarian region are at higher levels, and the situation in the other underdeveloped regions has also worsened. In Budapest and Western Hungary, the ELET-rates are unchanged or even slightly improving. As a result, inequality is growing steadily.

