



Alliance for Entrepreneurship and Development in Western Greece

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Following the recent progress of Western Greece vis-à-vis other Greek and EU regions via a set of common indicators

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This paper presents the economic situation in Western Greece compared to the other national and EU regions based on indices. For the needs of the economic mapping of the position of Western Greece, a system of indicators for well-being, concentration/specialization of the workforce and development prospects of the 276 EU regions was constructed.

Data analysis reveals strong heterogeneity and differentiation between Greek and European regions. Although the Greek regions fall short of the European median in most cases, we identify sectors with a high concentration of labor and the regions which are ranked first among the European regions using relevant indicators.

In particular, the region of Western Greece in 2015 had very high concentration of labor in the primary sector, as well as moderate concentration in the trade-transport-storage-accommodation-food service sector. At the same time, the area was lagging behind in a number of aspects related to growth prospects (with higher score in the demographic composition) and well-being (with higher health scores). There is therefore distance to cover in several fields.

From the time series analysis of the period 2013-2015 for the 276 EU regions, it is clear that changes in the ranking of Western Greece were marginal. Generally, it has low ranking in most of the indicators examined. Sub-indices of labor concentration in agriculture-forestry-fishing and trade-transport-storage-accommodation-food service are positive exceptions, according to which the region ranks among the top 20% of EU regions.