

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME IN THE HÓDMEZŐVÁSÁRHELY MICRO-REGION

KRISZTIÁN KIS

University of Szeged Faculty of Agriculture
Institute of Economics and Rural Development
H-6800 Hódmezővásárhely, Andrásy út 15. kis@mgk.u-szeged.hu

The presentation is about the employment and income issues of the four settlements in the Hódmezővásárhely micro-region. It is clear from the examination that both the employment and the economic activity are of low level in the micro-region, only 52% of the working age population actually work. All this affects unfavourably the economic development of the micro-region, and the formation of GDP which is determined by the employment rate and the labour productivity. According to these facts improvement of the employment conditions is a cardinal problem from the viewpoint of development of the settlements and the micro-region. The presence or lack of workplaces accessible locally or by commuting considerably affects employment, the economic activity and its complement, the economic inactivity, too. From this aspect the central settlement, Hódmezővásárhely has the most potential local economy, since almost 90% of the employees can find work in the settlement. The employees of local economies with low capacity have to find work in other settlements, so it affects the number of out-commuting workers. In the settlements beside the employees living and working in the residence, there are in-commuting workers from other settlements, their proportion is between 7 and 15% out of the local employees. According to the examination on the income per taxpayer 28.7 percent of taxpayers in the micro-region had an income equal to or under the subsistence level, 46 percent of them had minimum wage or under it in the examined time, which unfavourably affects the satisfaction of needs of the population, their accessibility to services, and the reproduction of human resources. In the case of each settlement the income category of 1-1.5 million HUF is the most typical. 16.8 percent of taxpayers in the micro-region belong to this category. I consider the income limit of 1.5 million HUF a year as a dividing line, since I think, this is the income above which the factors of satisfaction of needs become really accessible, and there is the freedom of choice, too. All this concerns hardly 20 percent of the population in the micro-region.

Keywords: labour force, employment, economic activity, income