

## 15. REGIONAL GROWTH IN THE OECD

A region's economic performance can be measured as the difference between its growth rate and that of all OECD regions. Competitive regions will grow faster than others and will increase their share of total OECD GDP. By the same token, GDP growth will be slower in less competitive regions and their share in total GDP will fall.

### Top-performing regions are widely spread...

Over 1998-2003, about half of OECD regions – 149 out of 297 – increased their share in total OECD GDP. The 20 fastest-growing regions were: **Canada:** Northwest Territories and Alberta; **Ireland:** Southern and Eastern and Border, Midlands and Western; **Korea:** Seoul region, Chungcheong, Gyeongbuk, Jeju, Gyeongnam and Gangwon; **Czech Republic:** Stredni Cechy; **Mexico:** Quintana Roo and

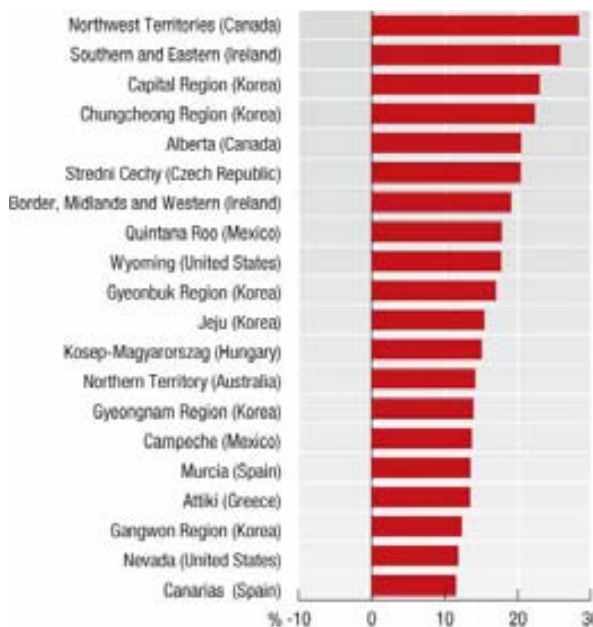
Campeche; **United States:** Wyoming and Nevada; **Hungary:** Kosep-Magyarország; **Australia:** Northern Territory; **Spain:** Murcia and Canaries; and **Greece:** Athens region (Figure 15.1).

### ... as are weaker performers

Over the same period, the other half of regions reduced their share in total OECD GDP. The 20 worst-performing regions were: **Germany:** Berlin, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Niedersachsen and Saarland; **Czech Republic:** Moravskoslezsko; **Spain:** Ceuta and Melilla; **Poland:** Opolskie; **Norway:** Nord-Norge; **France:** Bourgogne and Champagne-Ardenne; **Japan:** Tohoku, Kinki, Hokuriku, Shikoku and Hokkaido; **Italy:** Basilicata; **Mexico:** The state of Mexico; and **United States:** Ohio (Figure 15.2).

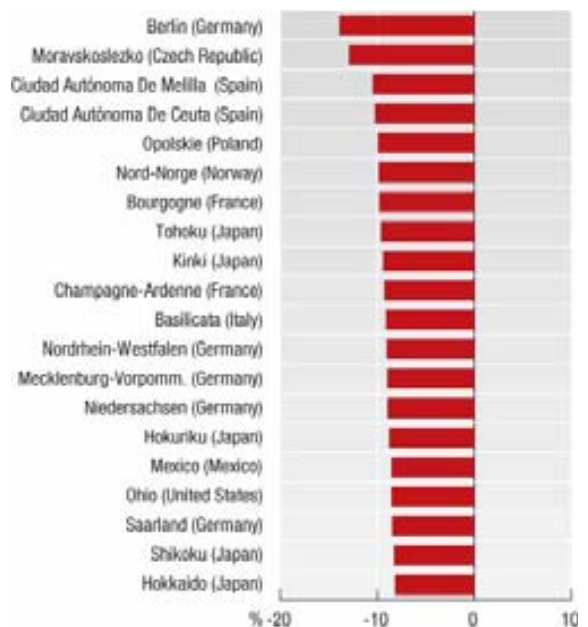
#### 15.1. Increase in the GDP share of the 20 fastest-growing OECD regions

Change in the regional GDP share of the OECD, 1998-2003 (TL2)

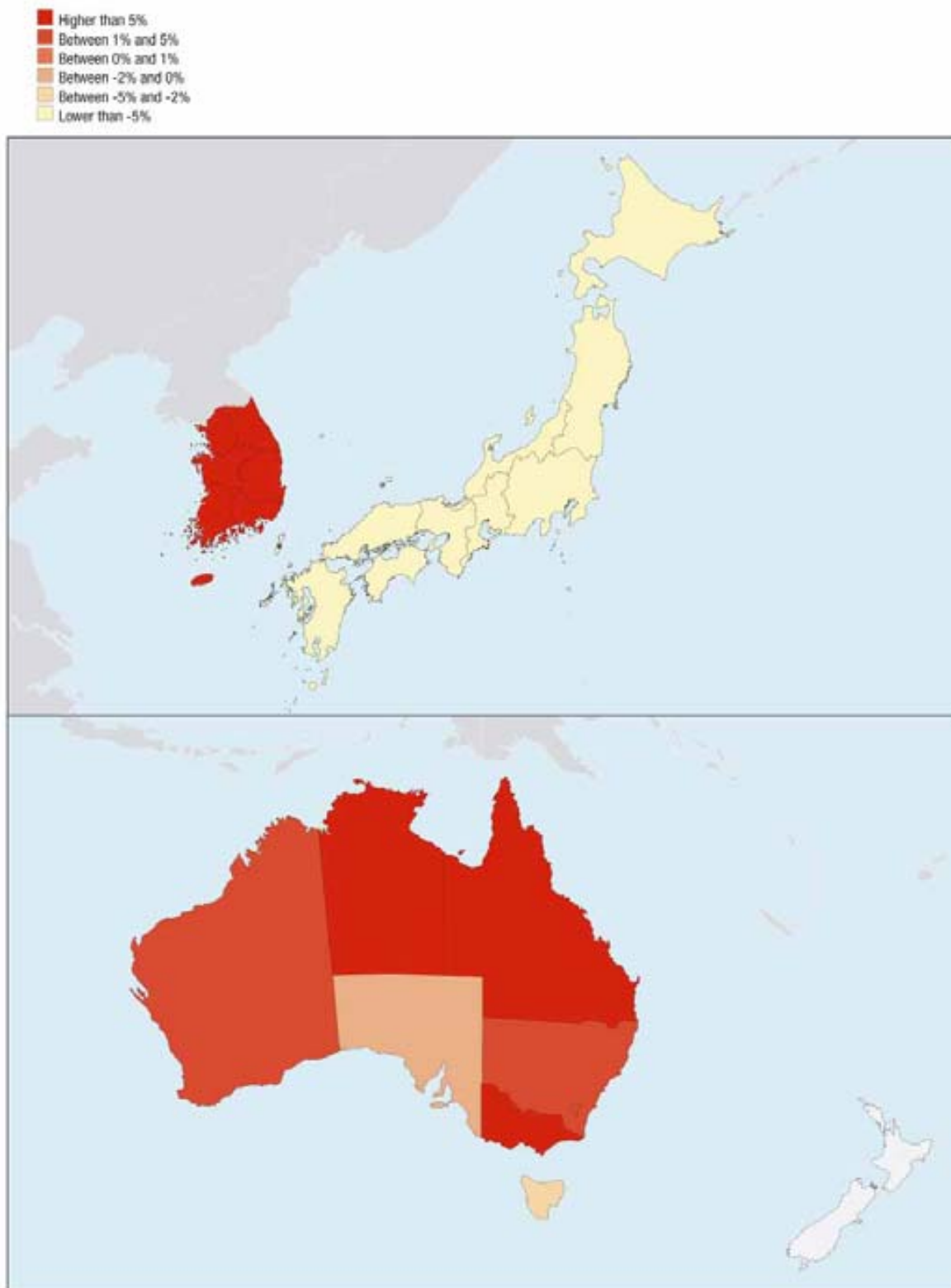



#### 15.2. Decrease in the GDP share of the 20 slowest-growing OECD regions

Change in the regional GDP share of the OECD, 1998-2003 (TL2)



15.3. Change in the regional GDP share of the OECD: Asia and Oceania  
1998-2003

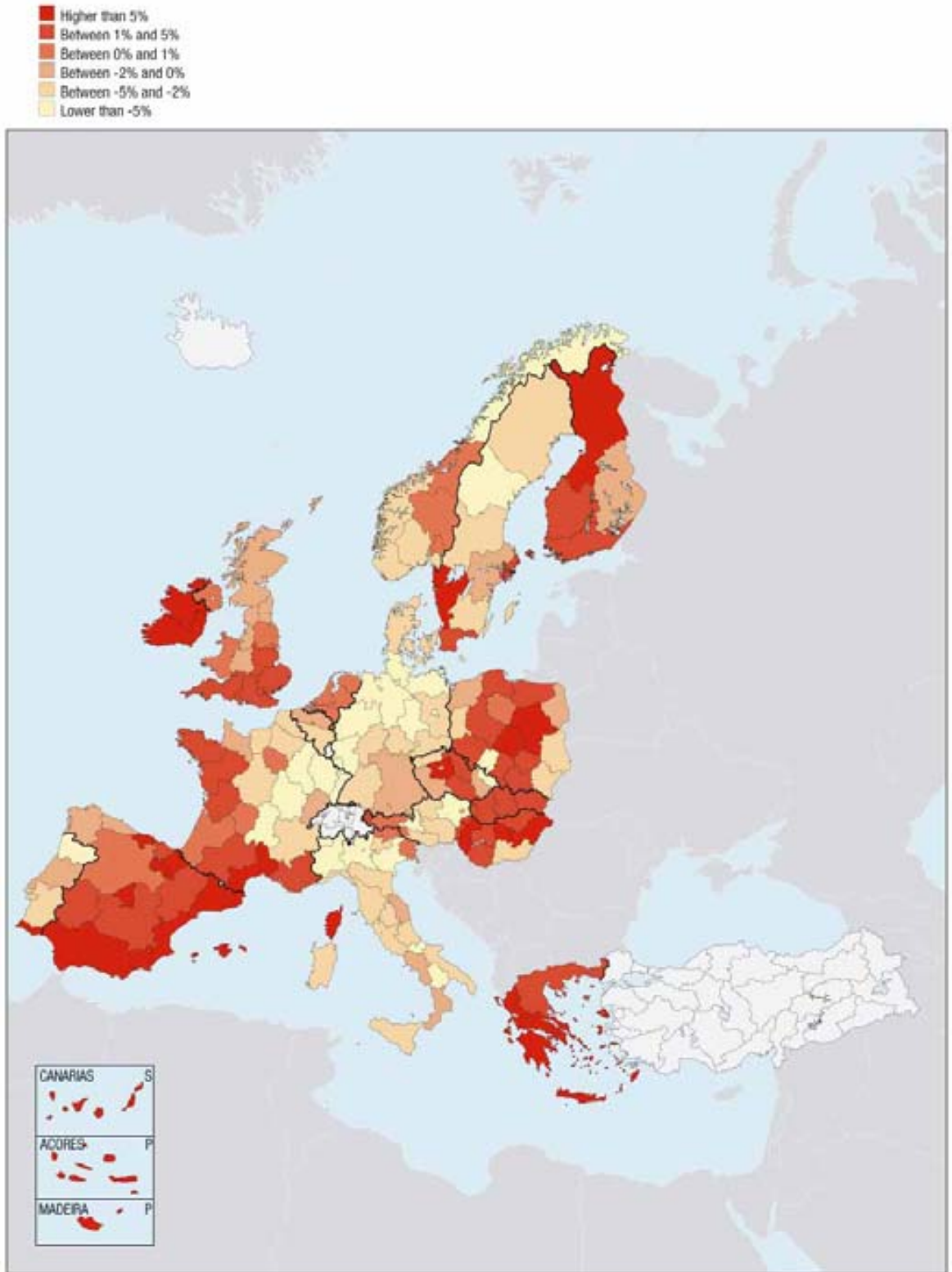


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### 15.4. Change in the regional GDP share of the OECD: Europe

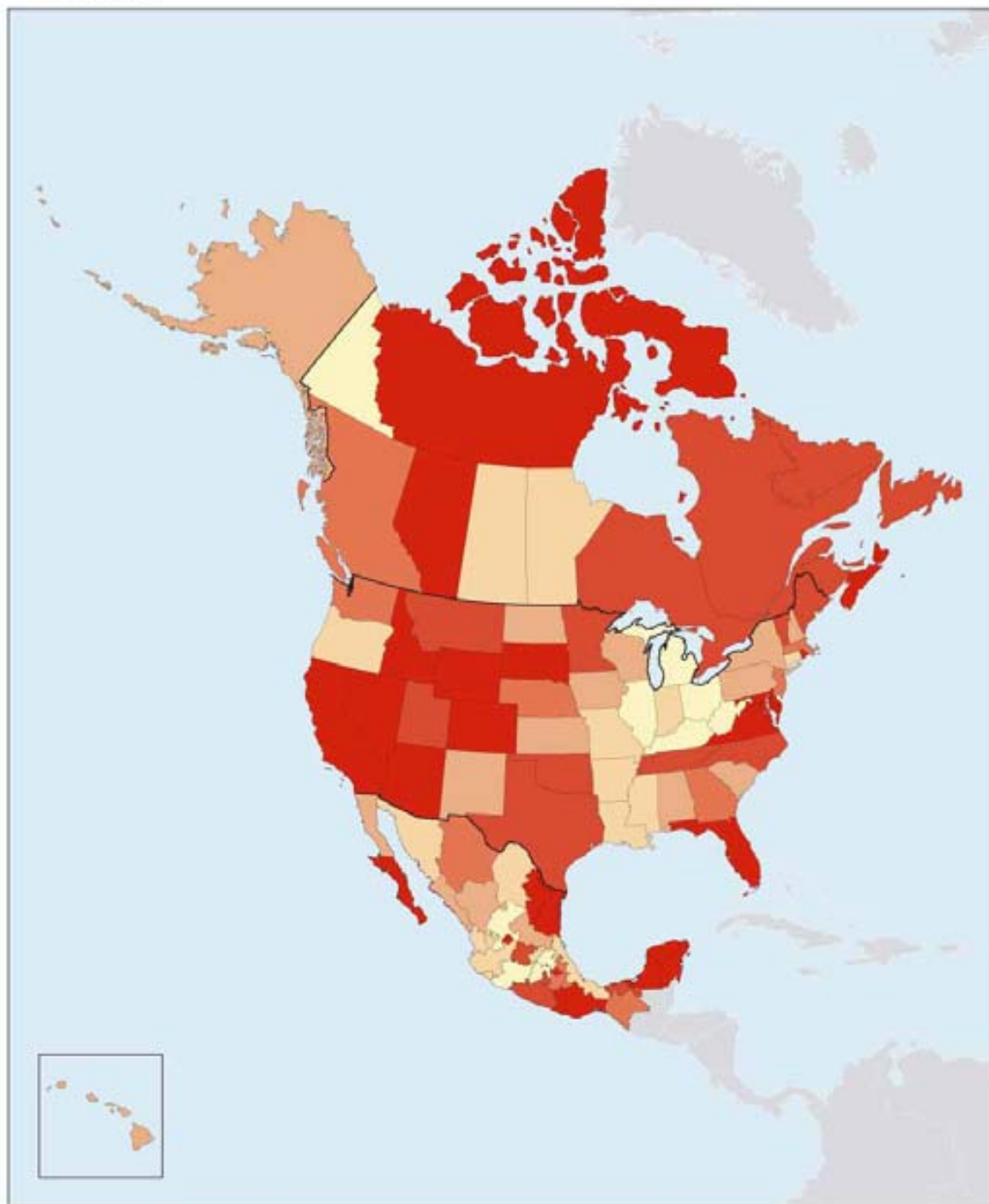
1998-2003




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15.5. Change in the regional share of the OECD: North America  
1998-2003

- Higher than 5%
- Between 1% and 5%
- Between 0% and 1%
- Between -2% and 0%
- Between -5% and -2%
- Lower than -5%



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## Symbols and Abbreviations

<b>OECD (25) average</b>	Unweighted average of 25 OECD countries.
<b>OECD (25) total</b>	Sum over all regions of 25 OECD countries.
<b>OECD (25)</b>	Range of variation over all regions of 25 OECD countries.
<b>TL2</b>	Territorial Level 2.
<b>TL3</b>	Territorial Level 3
<b>NOG</b>	Non Official Grid
<b>*</b>	Differences in the definition of data or regions. Please check the “Sources and Methodology” section.
<b>PU</b>	Predominantly Urban
<b>IN</b>	Intermediate
<b>PR</b>	Predominantly Rural
<b>PPP</b>	Purchasing Power Parity
<b>USD</b>	United States Dollar





## **I. REGIONS AS ACTORS OF NATIONAL GROWTH**

1. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF POPULATION
2. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF THE ELDERLY POPULATION
3. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF GDP
4. REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO GROWTH IN NATIONAL GDP
5. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF INDUSTRIES
6. REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT
7. GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF PATENTS

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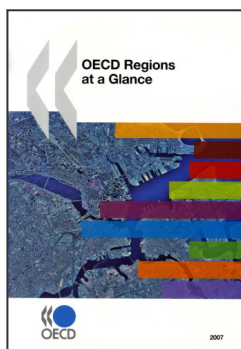


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