

Impact of selected socio-economic indicators on health personnel in countries of Visegrad group plus

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Abstract

Purpose of the article The quality of life can be measured through the socio-economic indicators, such as income, state of health, technological infrastructure, educational system, public safety or approach to ecological problems. The difference in the level of socio-economic indicators should be kept in sustainable limits for the welfare of the country as a whole. The analysis of these indicators can serve as the basis for the development policy on regional level.

Methodology/methods As the main estimation method is used two-step Generalized Method of Moments (GMM) with pooled data and fixed period effects among panels.

Scientific aim The aim of this paper is to describe the impact of the selected socio-economic indicators on health personnel. The regions of the Visegrad Group Plus countries at NUTS 2 level were selected for this purpose. These economies include the countries of Visegrad Group – Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, and the countries of Regional Partnership Agreement (from the year 2001), Austria and Slovenia. There are 46 regions on the NUTS 2 level – eight in the Czech Republic, seven in Hungary, sixteen in Poland, nine in Austria, four in Slovakia and two in Slovenia.

Findings For measuring the impact of socio-economic indicators of the regions in aforementioned economies, ten indicators were selected. Two economic indicators, one environmental, three health variables and four indicators of standard of living. The research was made in the period from 2004 to 2013. According to used method of GMM, we found that the greatest (positive) impact on the staff in hospitals (and their changes) has a change of household income and the change in the number of vehicles in the monitored regions.

Conclusions The research could be a contribution into the discussion about regional competitiveness in the sense of socio-economic approach and it can also provide a ground for further discussion on its measurement and using the appropriate indicators.

Keywords: countries of Visegrad Group Plus, Generalized Method of Moments, health personnel, socio-economic indicators

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