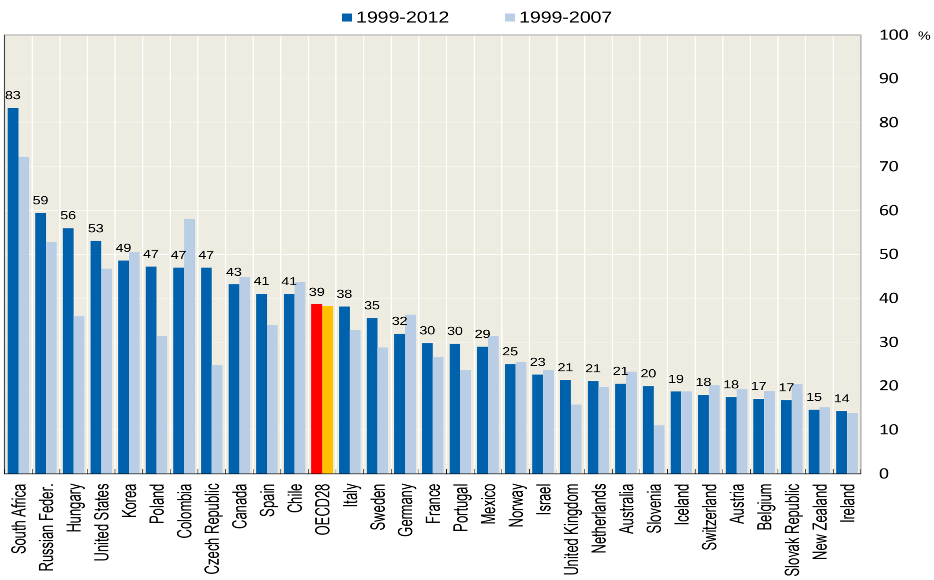
Job creation is concentrated in few regions

OECD Regions at a Glance 2013– The interactive edition December 2013

Relatively few regions led national employment creation between 1999 and 2012. On average, 39% of the overall employment growth in OECD countries in this period of time was accounted for by just 10% of regions. The regional contribution to national employment creation was particularly noticeable in Hungary, the United States (among OECD countries), the Russian Federation and South Africa, where more than 50% of employment growth was spurred by 10% of regions.

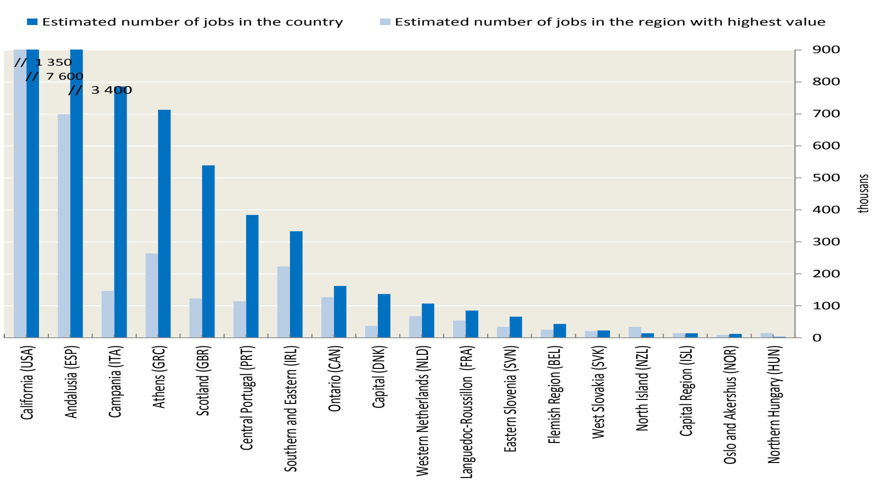
Per cent of national employment increase by top 10% of regions, 1999-2012 and 1999-2007



Source: OECD Regions at a Glance 2013

The economic crisis has worsened regional differences in unemployment. Few regions still concentrate most of the job losses: In the United States, 7.6 million jobs would be necessary to return to the employment rate of 2007, in which around 1.3 million employed would be needed in California. In countries where the effects across regions have been more diverse, half or more of the employment gap could be filled by bringing back just one region to the employment rate before the crisis (this is the case in Ireland, New Zealand, France, Estonia, the Netherlands, Canada, and the Slovak Republic).

Estimated number of jobs needed to restore in 2012 the 2007 employment rate



Source: OECD Regions at a Glance 2013

Links:

[OECD Regions at a Glance 2013]
[OECD Regional Statistics and Indicators]
[Regions at a Glance interactive]

Definitions

Employed persons are all persons who during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay or profit, or were temporarily absent from such work.

The **job gaps** in a region are estimated as the increase in employment required in 2012 to restore the ratio of employment and working age population to the 2007 value. The country's employment is computed as sum of regional values.