Session: Results of recent regional and urban analysis

Presentation: New approaches in analysing the regional evolution in France

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Abstract

According to the preliminary results of the last census in France, the growth rate in the number of inhabitants since 1999, compared to former decades, has increased far more in rural territories, more generally in low density territories, than in cities. This growth in rural space is linked essentially with a raise in internal immigration.

Who are these new rural inhabitants, where do they come from? Is this growth in population associated with a similar growth in employment or is employment still mostly located inside the cities and their immediate rings of influence? Does the development of low density territories outside cities still depend on suburbanisation, or can we speak of a more endogenous development of rural space?

The presentation will try to answer these questions, and attempt some conclusion on a possible "renewal" of rural space in France.

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