Social and spatial disparities in cities – the flip side of urban productivity growth

Rupert Kawka

Federal Institute for Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development

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Labour market seems to be guilty

- productivity in the 10 biggest German cities 30 % higher than in all other NUTS 3-units

⇒ good or bad news?

  in the ten biggest cities: - 0.5 % p.a.
- unemployed foreigners 01/14 in Germany: + 1.0 % p.a.
  in the ten biggest cities: + 1.5 % p.a.
- long term unemployed 01/14 in Germany: - 1.3 % p.a.
  in the ten biggest cities: + 0.1 % p.a.

⇒ higher productivity = no labour market effect
Also less jobs for less educated employees, more jobs for more educated ones in ten biggest cities!

- Employees with tertiary education: \( \phi \approx +37\% \)
- Employees without formal training: \( \phi \approx -25\% \)
• Certainly effect on urban social/spatial structure
• Hypothesis hard to test due to weak empirical basis
• Necessity to abandon pure deductive research design
Data restrictions

• smaller units = less indicators
• no harmonization for statistics on urban quarters – “city picking”
• different and rather short time series in cities and dates of publication – hard to compare
• different sizes of urban quarters – partly incomparable, e.g. coefficients of variation

![Graph showing relationship between average population per statistical unit and coefficient of variation.](image)

Ccorr = -
Date restrictions continued

- no alternative sources in urban statistical yearbook (by law)
- mobility/fluctuation can be high in small units – social or spatial statements + ecological fallacy?

  e.g. Cologne-Altstadt 2013/2014:
  Growth from 17,700 to 17,896 inhabitants, but 3,415 moved in,
  215 births, 3,902 moved out, 155 deaths = fluctuation of 19 %.
  But who are the 6.5/6.1 % welfare recipients?

- NUTS 3 statistics (qualification level): no data for 2012/2013, new classification since 2014 – disrupted time series, testing of hypothesis difficult
Multiple and interconnected problems in quarters with higher share of welfare recipients

- high ranges, e.g. in Hamburg 0.2 %-27 %, Cologne 1 %-33 %, Frankfort/Main 2 %-26 %
- less average income (Hamburg, $C_{\text{corr}} = -0.639$)
- higher excessive indebtedness (Duisburg, $C_{\text{corr}} = 0.929$)
- less voter participation in elections (Cologne, $C_{\text{corr}} = -0.879$)

⇒ Multiple problems (and only few can be quantified)
Future problems – what about the children in quarters with many welfare recipients?

In Hamburg: 10 % of the population depend on social welfare, but 21 % of the children under 15 years

- more children with overweight (Bottrop, $C_{corr} = 0.608$)
- less children with all proposed medical examinations (Duisburg, $C_{corr} = -0.812$)
- more children with body coordination disorder (Bottrop, $C_{corr} = 0.618$)
- more children with speech disorder (Bottrop, $C_{corr} = 0.843$)
- less children going to grammar school (Duisburg, $C_{corr} = -0.688$)
Example of Essen – already disadvantaged quarters become more disadvantaged

\[ C_{corr} = 0.605 \]
A further example with alternative data – does urban policy favour better-off quarters? Again the example of Essen

- clear division between better and disadvantaged quarters
- locations of refugee homes hardly in better areas
- policy-induced disparity
- example of inclusion of non-official data for urban monitoring

Share of welfare recipients 2014 in %

- < 5
- 5.0 - 9.9
- 10.0 - 14.9
- 15.0 - 19.9
- > 20

- Refugee home 2016
Conclusions

- Social/spatial disparities in cities are a problem
- It will be a bigger problem in the future
- Monitoring is only partly possible, but further data sources have to be taken into account
- Taking the labour market more into account (especially urban policy)
- Not only praising urban productivity – also looking at the flip side