



## Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) System

### Background:

The [NUTS](#) classification is a hierarchical system for the geographic categorization (larger to smaller territorial units) of regions in the EU and the UK for the purpose of collecting, developing and harmonising European regional statistics. This classification enables cross-border statistical comparisons at various regional levels within the EU and is divided into three levels corresponding with administrative structures of MS:

Level	Classification	Population Thresholds
<b>NUTS-1</b>	Major socio-economic regions (one NUTS1 area typically contains several NUTS2 areas)	3 000 000 – 7 000 000
<b>NUTS-2</b>	Basic regions for the application of regional policies (one NUTS2 area typically contains several NUTS3 areas)	800 000 – 3 000 000
<b>NUTS-3</b>	Small regions for specific diagnoses	150 000 – 800 000

The regulation specifies stability of the classification for at least three years. However there are changes occurring in the classification of the regions with the most recent update in the [NUTS 2021 classification](#), which will be valid for data transmission to Eurostat from 1 January 2021 and lists 104 regions at NUTS 1, 283 regions at NUTS 2 and 1345 regions at NUTS 3 level.

The Urban-rural typology is applied to NUTS level 3 regions: it identifies three types of region based on the share of the rural population, namely, predominantly rural regions, intermediate regions and predominantly urban regions.

The urban-rural typology is a classification based on the following three categories:

- 'Predominantly rural'** if the share of the population living in rural areas is higher than 50
- 'Intermediate'** if the share of the population living in rural areas is between 20 and 50
- 'Predominantly urban'** if the share of the population living in rural areas is below 20

Plus, the size of the urban centres in the region is considered (200 000 and 500 000 inhabitants)



## Significance for the SHARE SIRA project

The NUTS system is helping to frame EU regional policies and [regions eligible for support from cohesion policy](#) have been defined at NUTS 2 level. In this context, NUTS 2 level determines the eligibility for European Structural and Investment Funds. For the purpose of receiving funding from the Structural Funds, NUTS 2 regions are classified into less developed regions, transition regions and more developed regions. The allocation of resources from the [Funds depends on this classification](#). The [EU cohesion report](#) has so far mainly been prepared at NUTS-2 level. NUTS 3 level is mostly used for the specific analysis for smaller regions. As such, the NUTS system is not only used for classifying regions and eligibilities for specific support, but are also for policy planning in particular in the policy area of regional development. Some examples of regional datasets available on Eurostat's website at the NUTS 2 level are: agriculture, demography, regional economic accounts, labour market, education, poverty and social exclusion.

## NUTS classification for SHARE SIRA project regions

SHARE SIRA Region	NUTS-0	NUTS-1	NUTS-2	NUTS-3
Region of Auvergne Rhône-Alpes	FR	Auvergne Rhône-Alpes (FRK)	Rhône-Alpes (FRK2) Auvergne (FRK1)	Isère (FRK24)
Region of Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur	FR	Alpes Côte d'Azur (FRL)	Alpes Côte d'Azur (FRL0)	Vaucluse department (FRL06)
Region of Nouvelle Aquitaine	FR	Nouvelle Aquitaine (FRI)	Limousin (FRI2)	Corrèze (FRI21)
Region of Bourgogne-Franche-Comté	FR	Bourgogne-Franche-Comté (FRC)	Bourgogne (FRC1)	Saône-et-Loire (FRC13)
Region of Thessaly	EL	Central Greece (EL6)	Thessaly (EL61)	Karditsa (EL611)
Provinces of Mazovia	PL	Makroregion województwo mazowieckie (PL9)	Mazowiecki regionalny (PL92)	-
Provinces Lower Silesia	PL	Makroregion Poludniswo (PL2)	Silesia (PL22)	-
Autonomous Region of Aragon	ES	Noreste (ES2)	Aragón (ES24)	Teruel (ES242)
Autonomous region of Castilla la Mancha	ES	Centro (ES4)	Castilla-La Mancha (ES42)	Guadalajara (ES424)
Autonomous region of Castilla y León	ES	Centro (ES4)	Castilla y León (ES41)	Soria (ES417)