

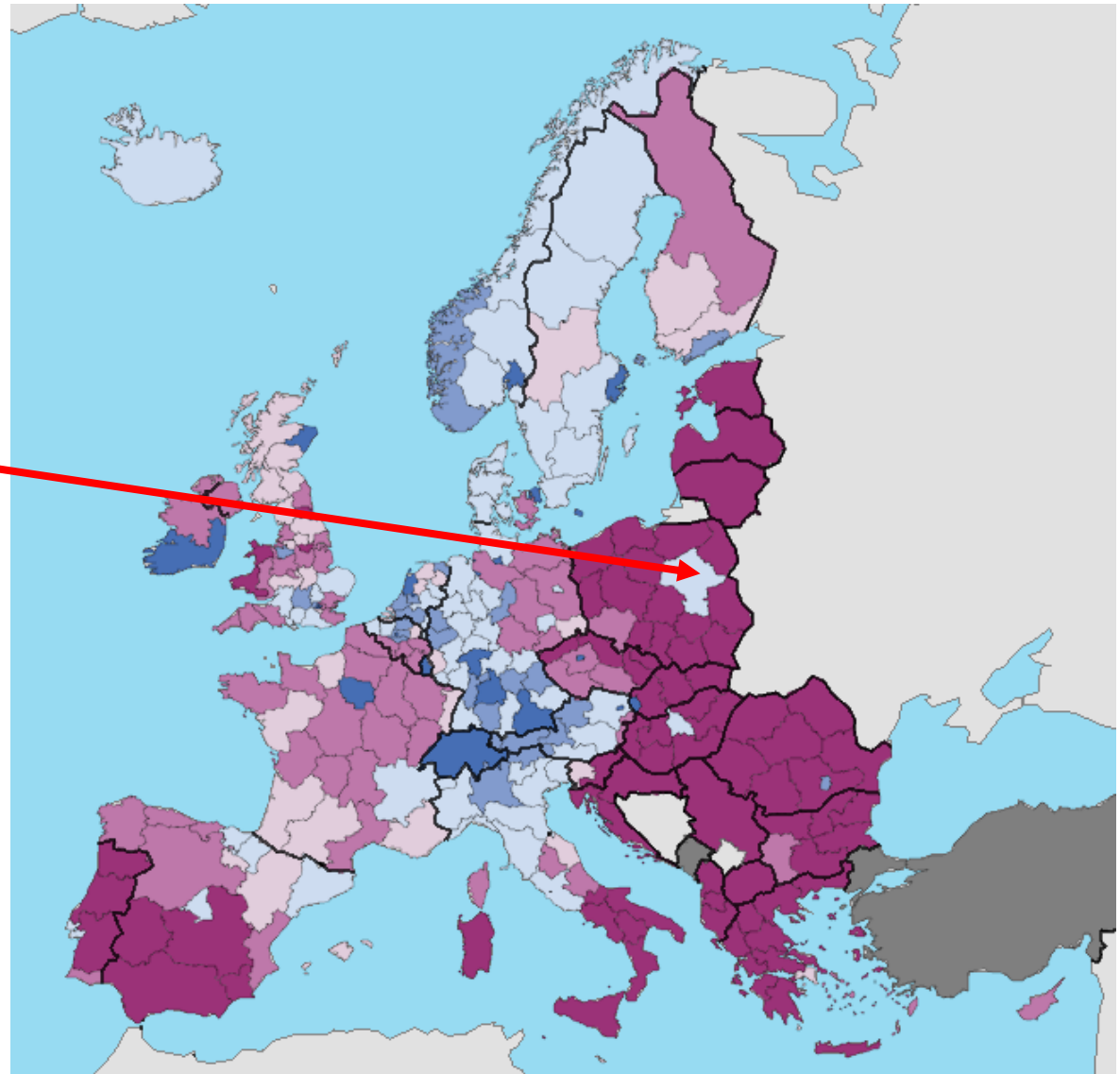
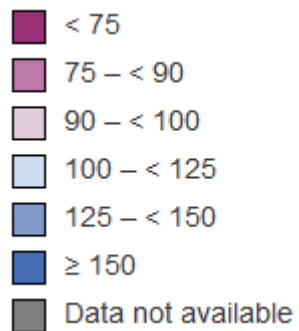
Mazovia's new statistical division: Causes and conditions

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**GDP per inhabitant in
PPS in subregions
(% of EU-28 average,
2015, Eurostat)**

100-125%



The NUTS classification serves as the basis for the distribution of European Union Structural Funds among regions considered to be peripheral or lagging in economic and social development.

NUTS-2 regions are classified as lagging behind in development if their GDP per inhabitant is lower than 75% of the EU average (adjusted for purchasing power parity). In that case they are entitled to funds serving to promote their development and structural adaptation.

The main criterion used to identify NUTS-2 units:

- population (800 thousand – 3 million inhabitants)

Additional criteria:

- geographical,
- socio-economic,
- historical,
- cultural
- environmental circumstances.

NUTS classification is not permanent.

Since the beginning, the boundaries of units for statistical purposes has been changed multiple times, in nearly all member countries of the EU.

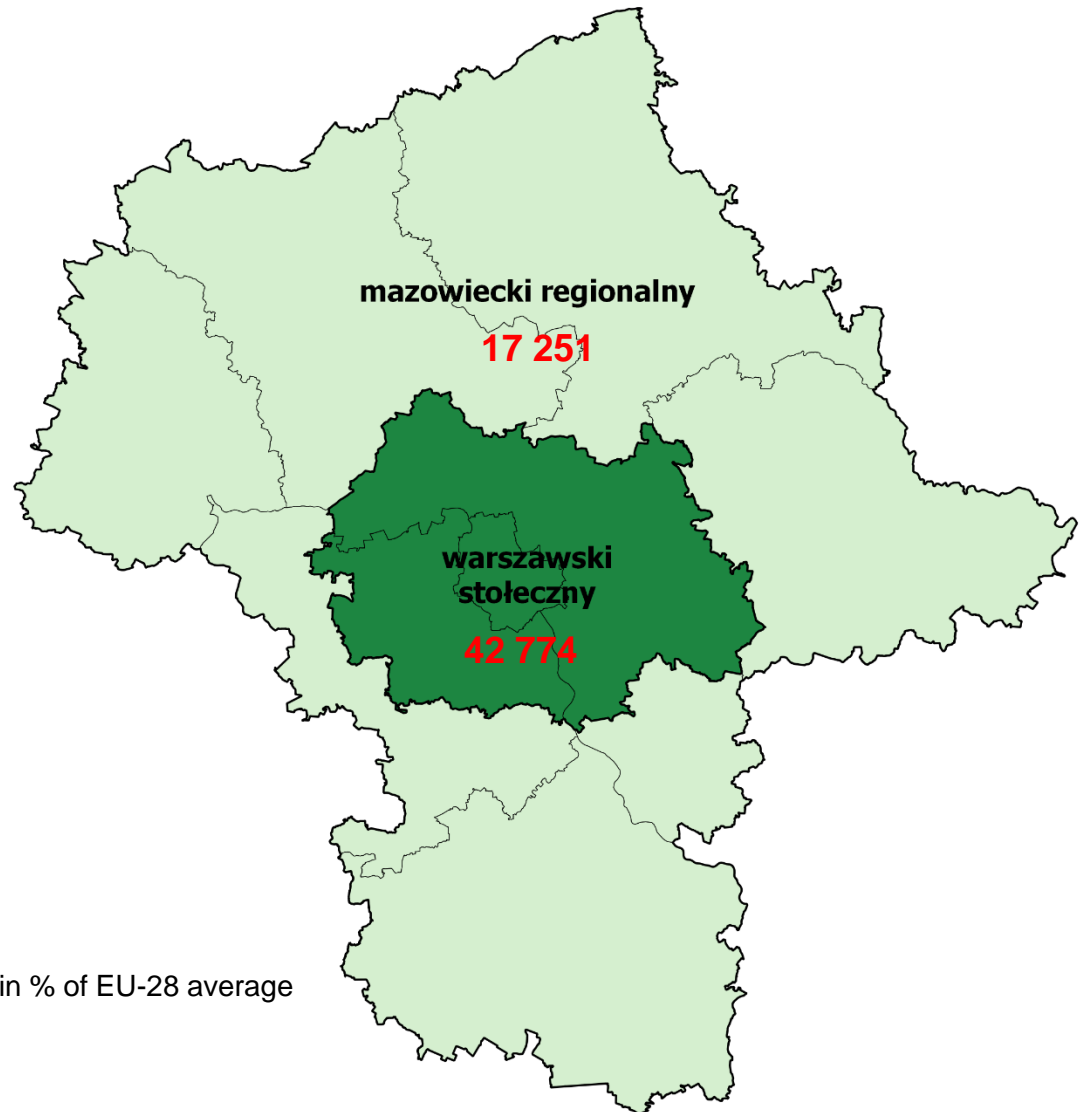
The Regional Government of Mazovia started to lobby for a change in Polish NUTS-2 boundaries as early as 2008, as forecasts were already suggesting that the region would cross the threshold of 75% of the EU average GDP.

The level of GDP per inhabitant achieved in Mazovia in 2007-2009 caused the region to be classified as a more developed one (at best a transition region). **This meant that in 2014-2020 it would have received only half the funds for infrastructural investments it got in 2007-2013 from the European Regional Development Fund.**

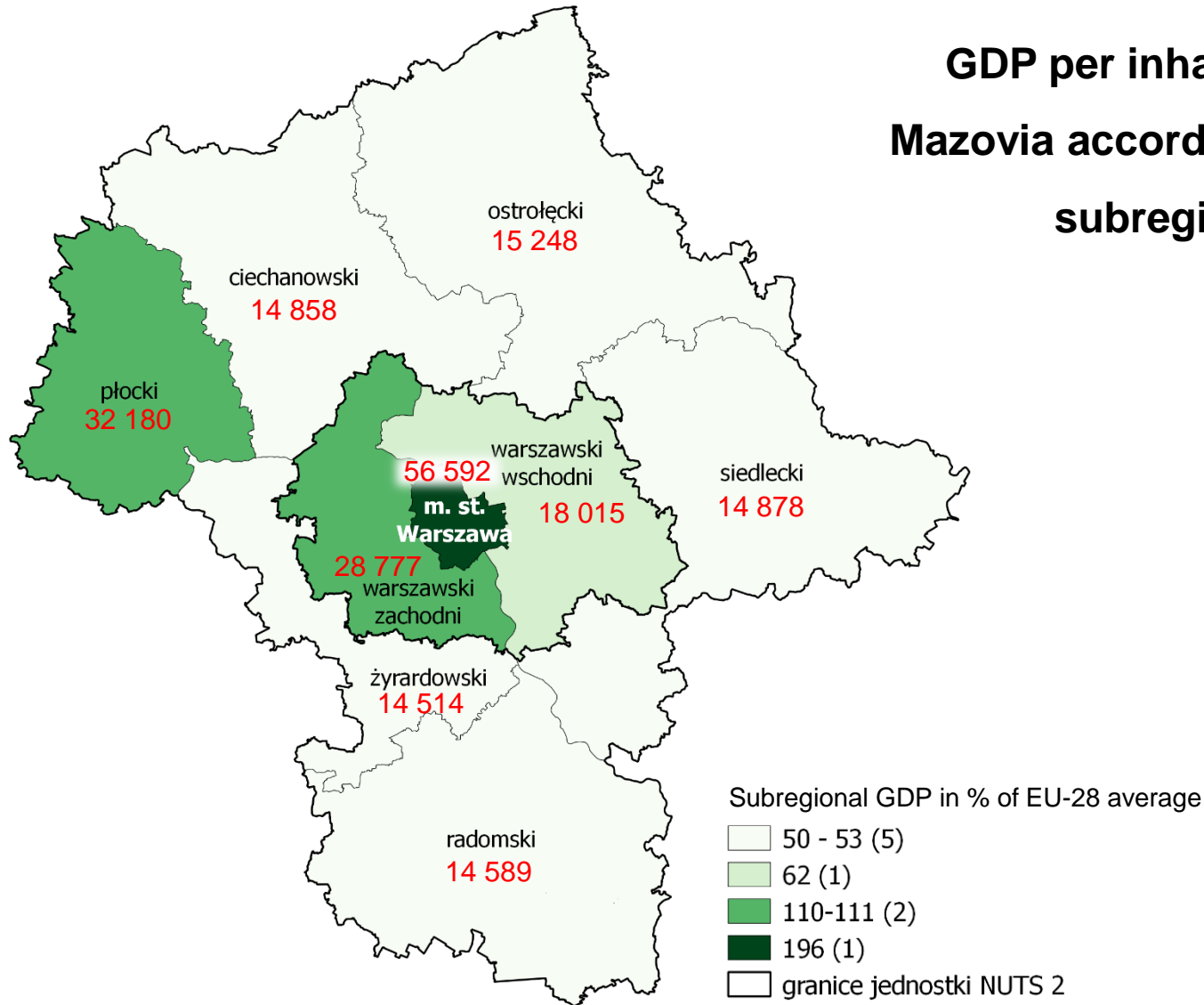


The new division
of NUTS-2 regions
also requires changes in NUTS-3 boundaries.

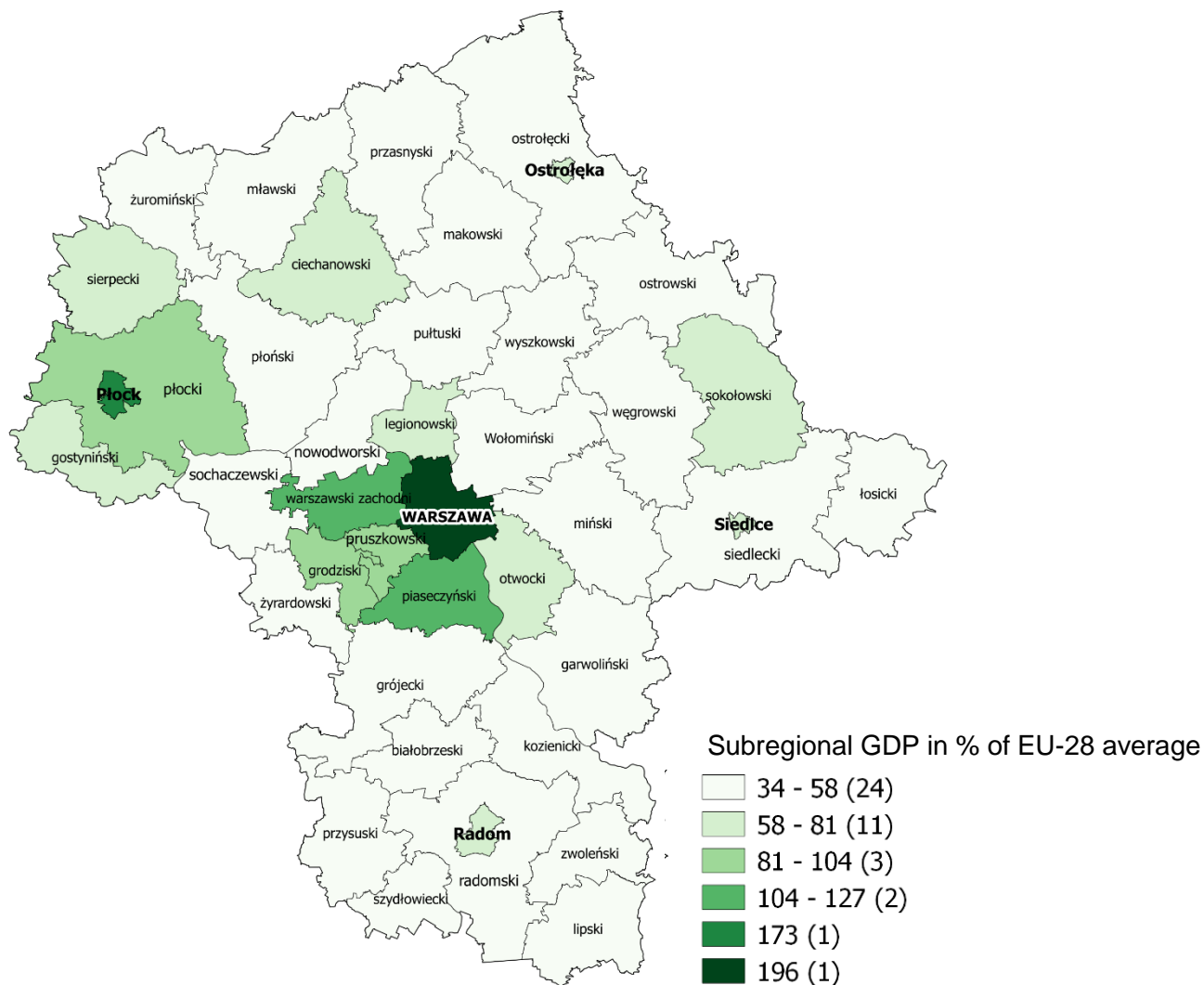
**GDP per inhabitant in
PPS in Mazovia
according to new
NUTS-2 regions (2015)**



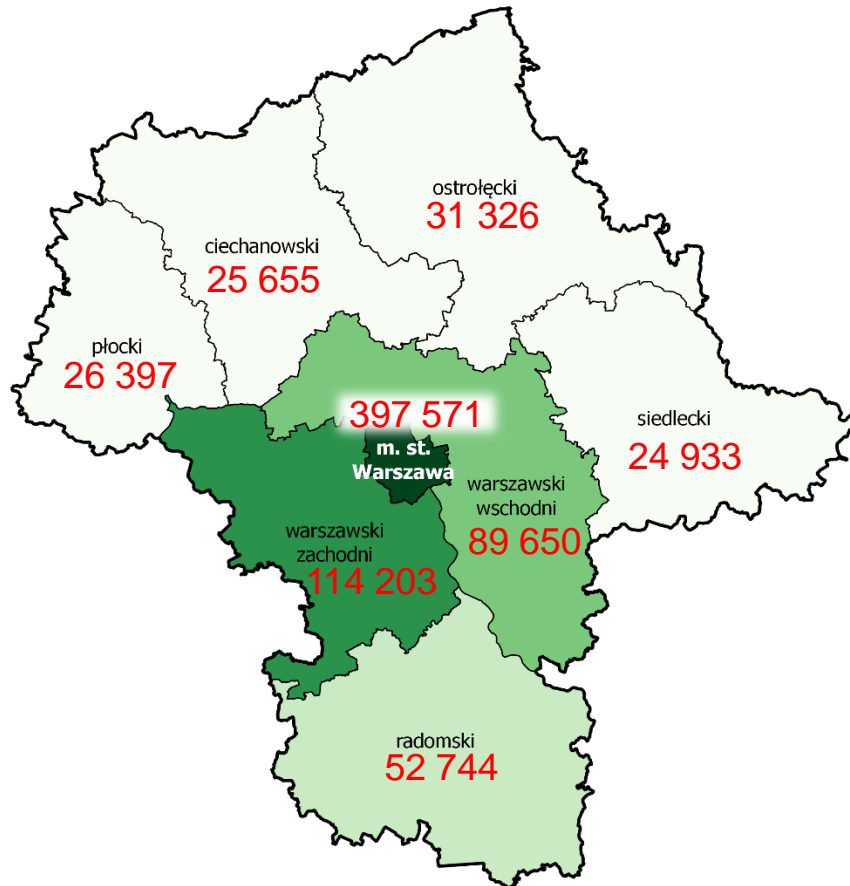
GDP per inhabitant in PPS in Mazovia according to new NUTS-3 subregions (2015)



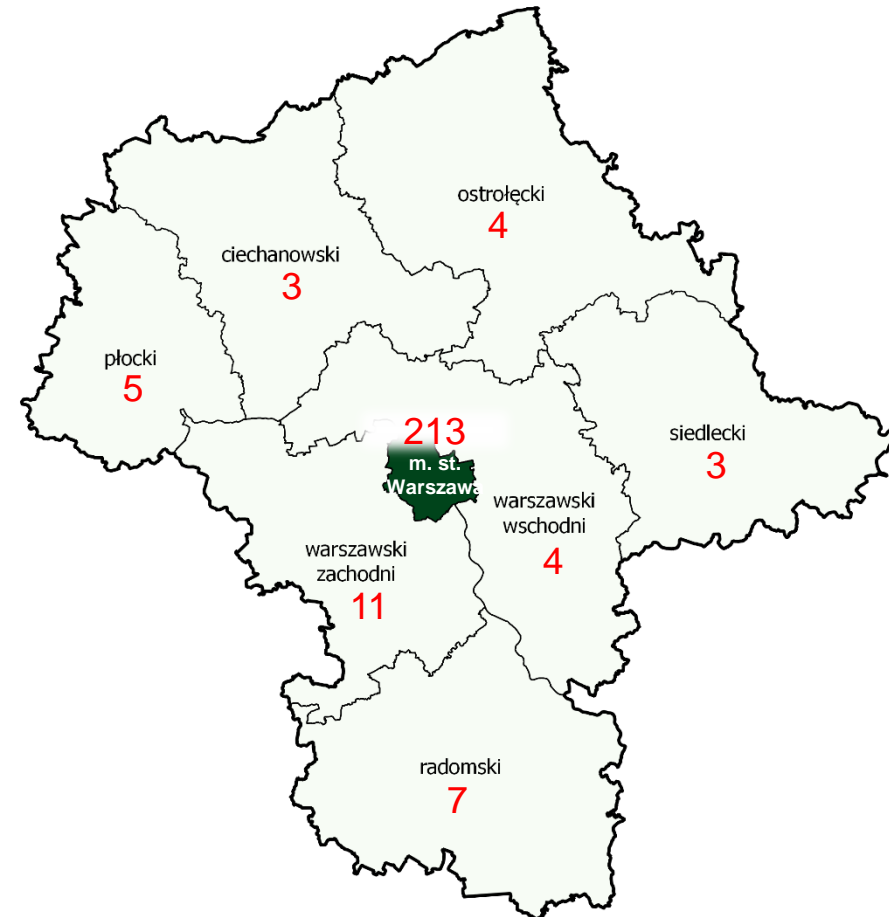
GDP per inhabitant in PPS in counties (% of EU-28 average, 2015)



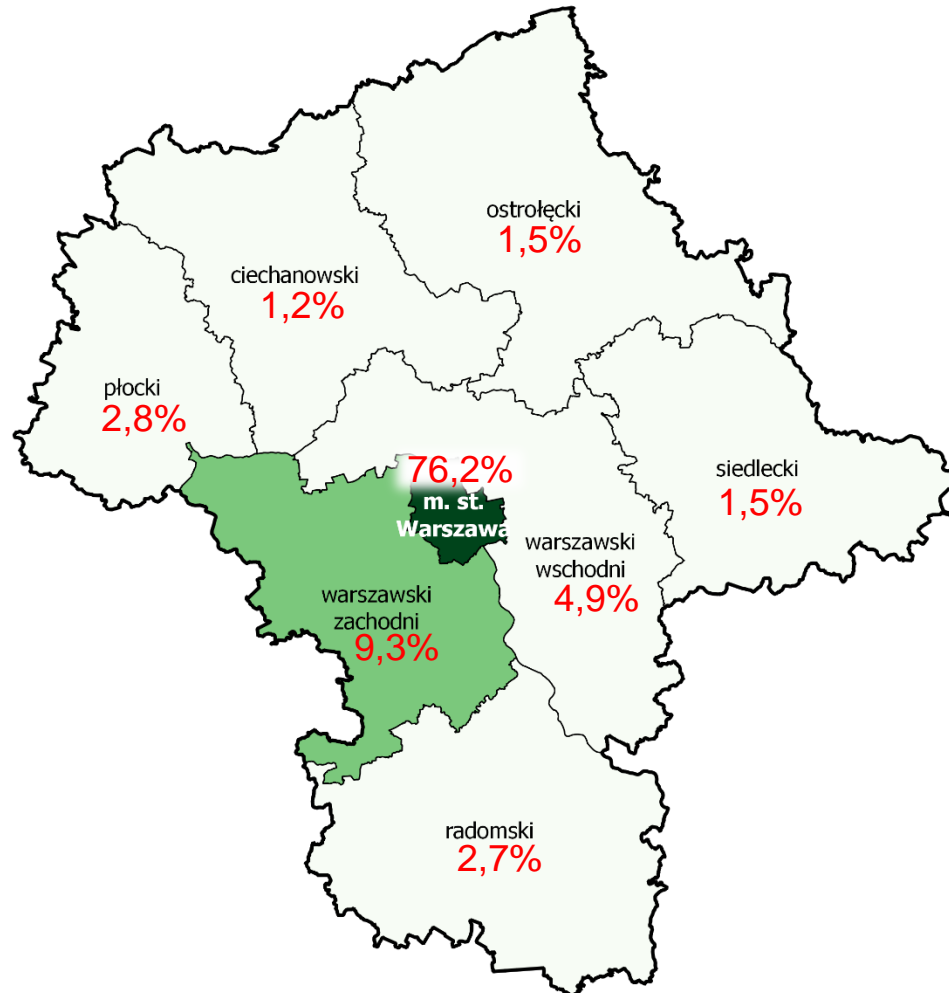
Registered companies (economic entities)
(3rd quarter of 2015, REGON register)



Registered Companies with over 1000 employees (economic entities)
(3rd quarter of 2015, REGON register)



Share of regional government income from personal and corporate income taxes (2014)



EU funds are distributed according to the parameters of statistical, not administrative units. Therefore an effective solution in the case of Mazovia was a division into two statistical units.

Such a solution allows for better regional development planning, as well as more precise allocation of financial support, according to the needs of specific parts of the region.