SPATIAL DIFFERENTIATION OF NON-AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY IN RURAL AREAS

Key words: economic development, non-agricultural activity, rural areas, sectoral structure, spatial differentiation

Summary

The paper presents studies on spatial and structural determinants of economic development in rural areas. Correlation between territorial differentiation of economic development and sectoral structure of economy is described in regional aspect and then the importance of non-agricultural activities for the development of spatial systems is discussed. Selected factors that indirectly characterise differentiation of non-agricultural development (like the number of employees in that activity, the number of private companies registered in the REGON system, communal incomes from taxes) were analysed using Local Database (LDB) of the Main Statistical Office and the GIS techniques in regions and microregions with the distinction of rural areas and towns. Concluding remarks arising from the analysis of structural and spatial determinants of rural development are presented.