Regional estimates of poverty indicators based on a calibration technique

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Abstract

In the case of France, the production of regional estimates from EU-SILC must rely on auxiliary data sources. The latter include essentially the income tax data and the population census. EU-SILC allows to estimate, at the national level, the individual relationships between the various forms of poverty and some explanatory variables included in the questionnaire. If these covariates are observed in the auxiliary sources as well, we can apply the estimated relationships to the "true" regional structures built from these covariates, leading to the regional estimates (called synthetic estimates). In practice a calibration technique on regional structures was applied to EU-SILC 2009 and 2010, and resulted in a set of weights for each region. Applied to several variables related to poverty, these weights led to satisfactory synthetic regional estimates.