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# Demographic Change and the Regional Labour Market in the North of the Netherlands 2010-2040

Presentation at the ECOS Commission Studyvisit Demographic Change Against the Backdrop of EU2020: Healthy and Active Ageing. Het Kasteel, Groningen, October 21, 2010.

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## Outline

- Trends on the labour market
- The Dutch labour market in European perspective
- The labour market of the Northern Netherlands
- Labour market participation
- Population decline / Ageing society
- Migration / Commuting
- Summary
- Labour market policy agenda

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## Trends on the labour market

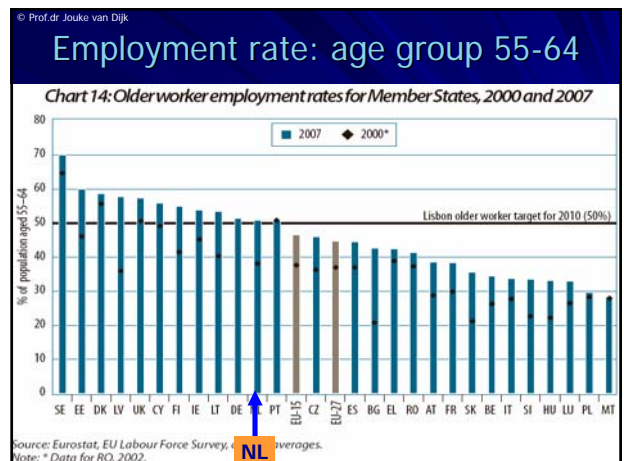
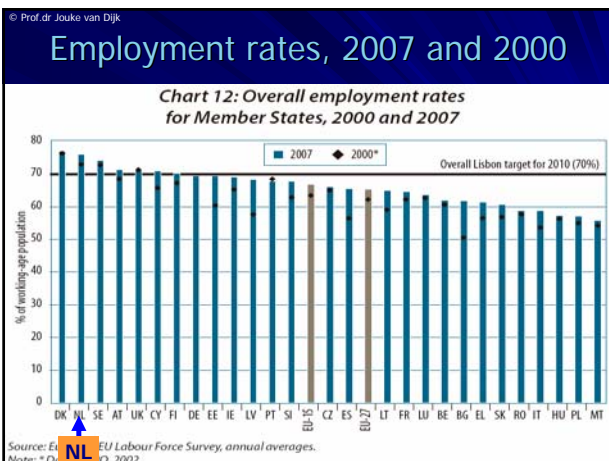
- Quantitative:
  - Economic crisis
  - Aging society
- Qualitative: **education** and occupation
  - Economic restructuring from industry → services
  - Increasing knowledge intensity → educational level
  - Increasing flexibility in type of contract and in space
  - Still open vacancies exist together with a huge pool of long-term unemployed, partly disabled, etc.

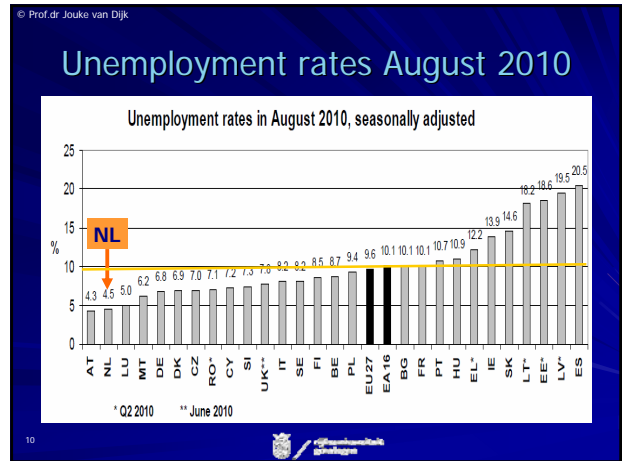
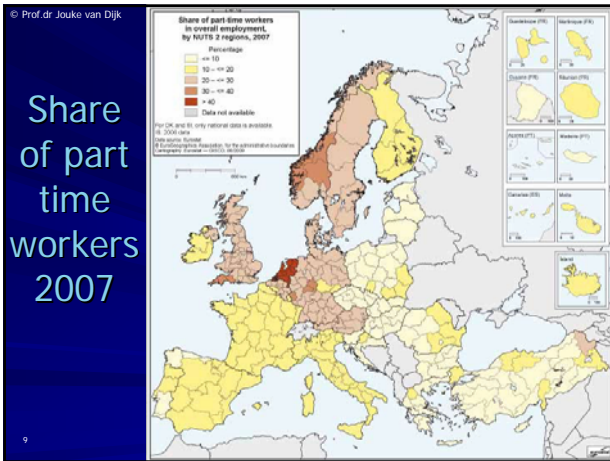
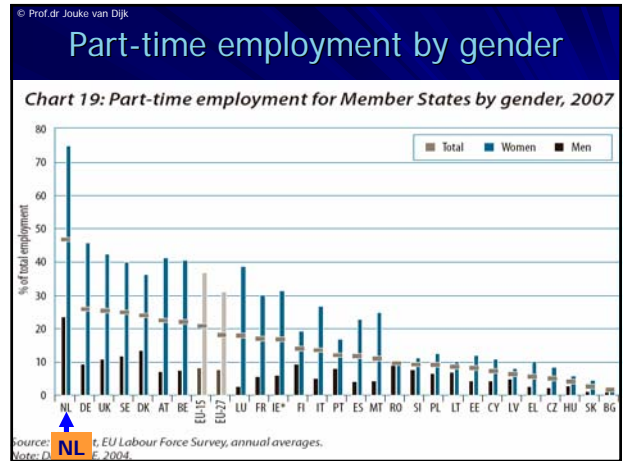
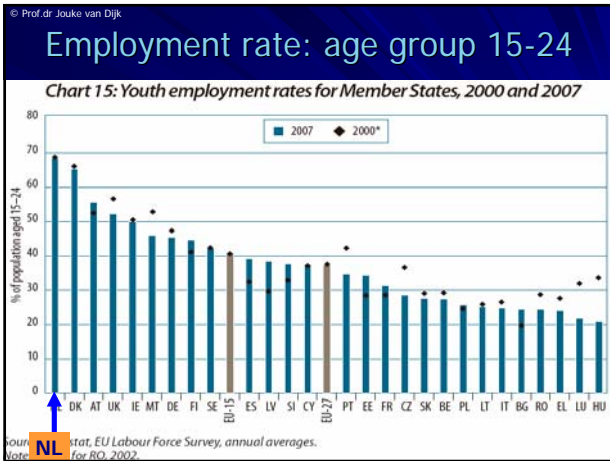
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## The Dutch labour market in a European perspective

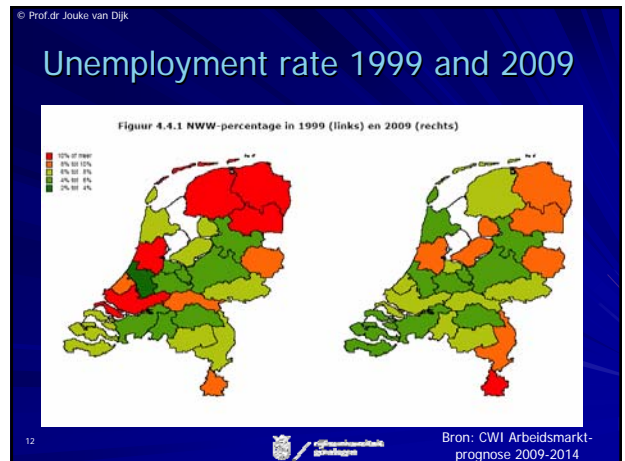
<sup>4</sup>  [www.joukevandijk.nl](http://www.joukevandijk.nl)

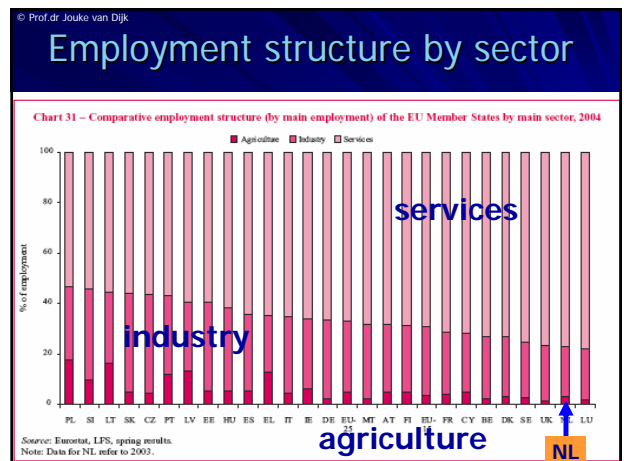
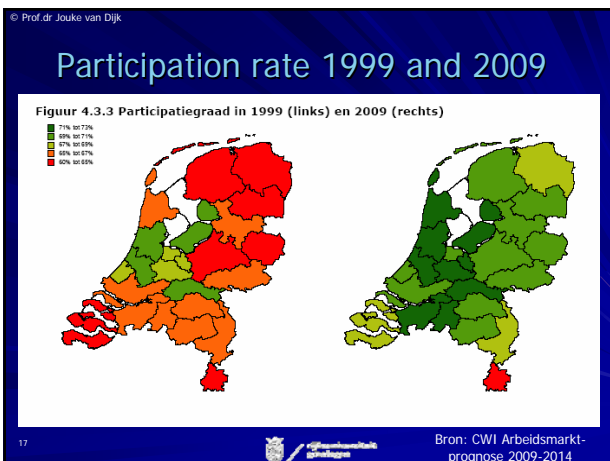
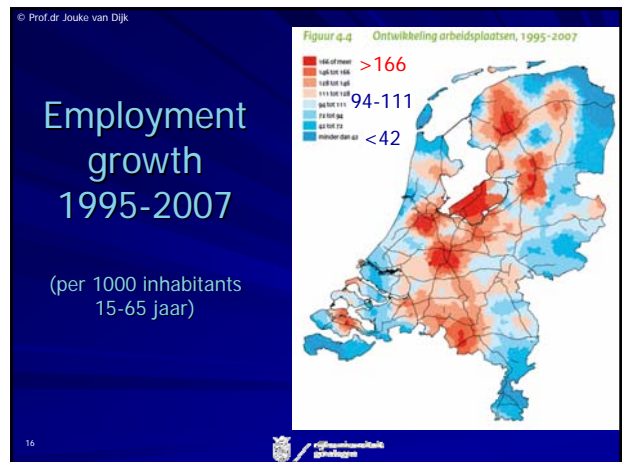
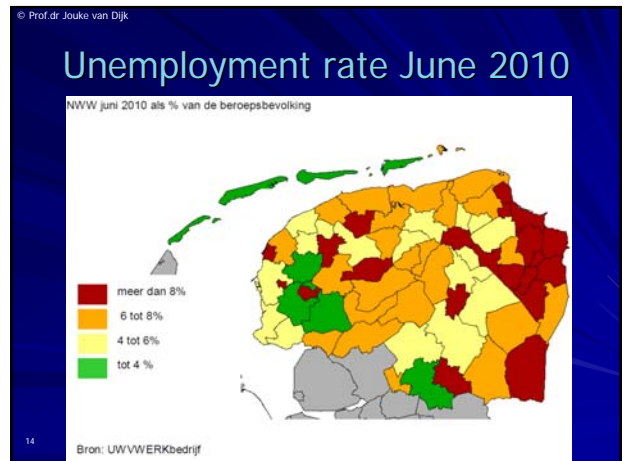
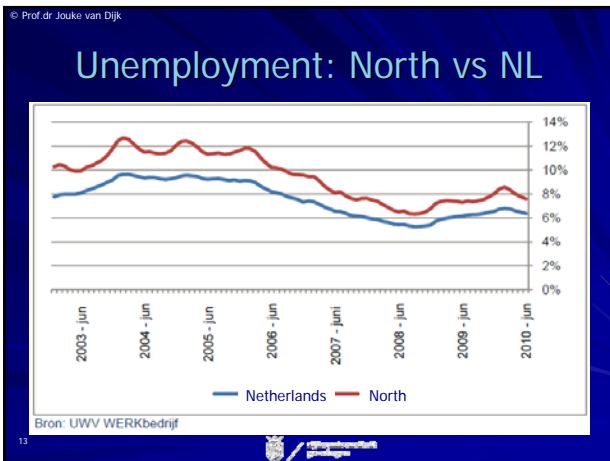


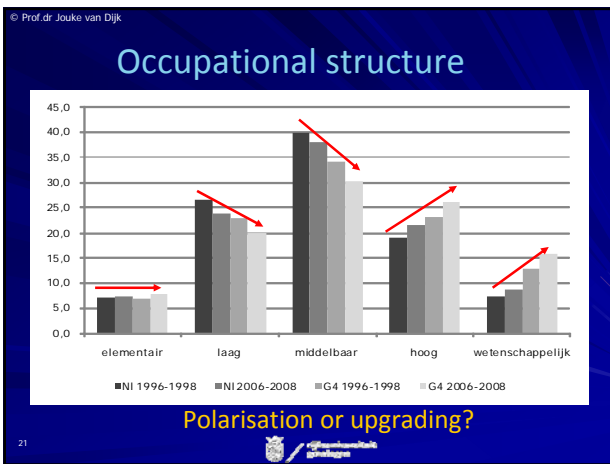
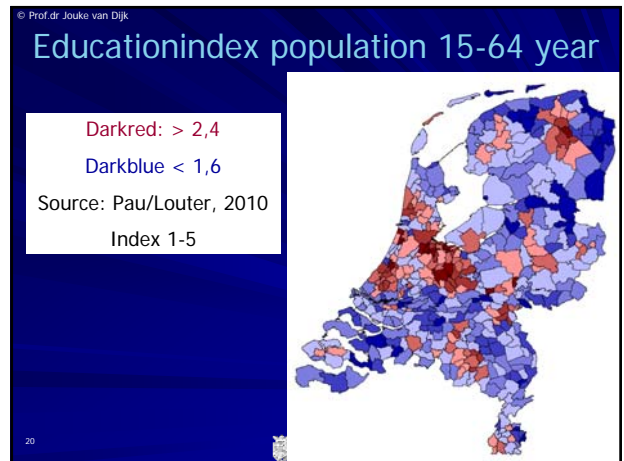
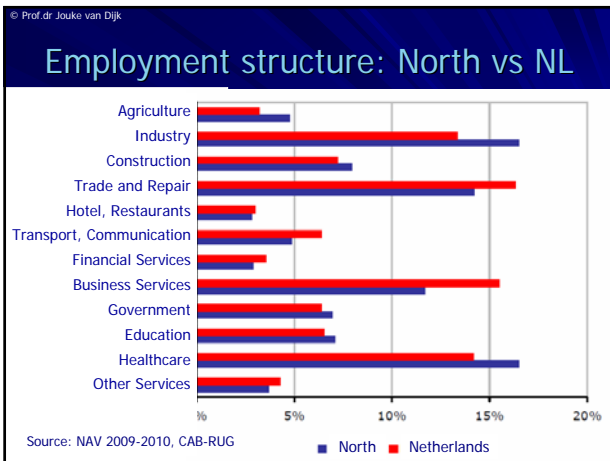


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### The regional labour market in the Northern Netherlands

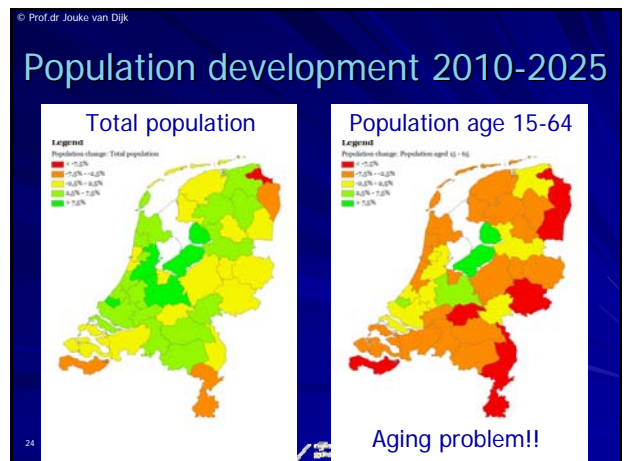
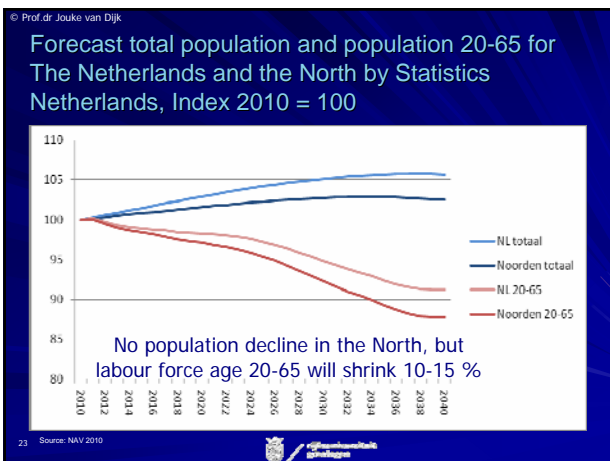


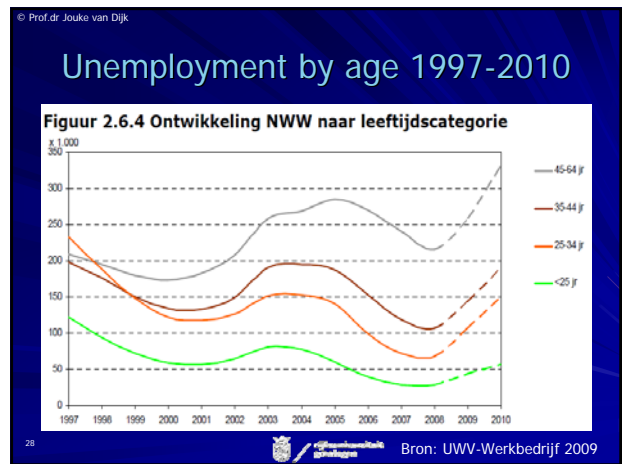
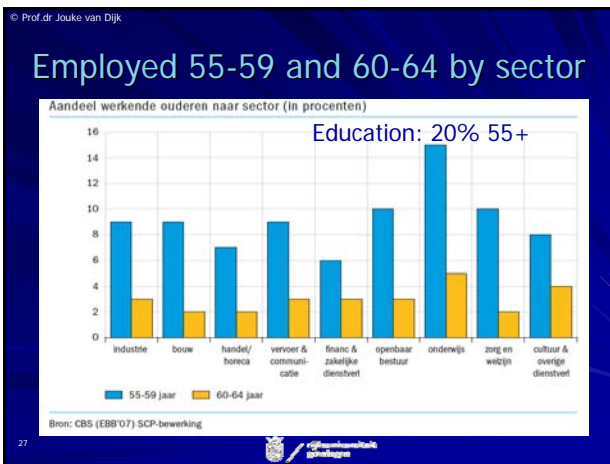
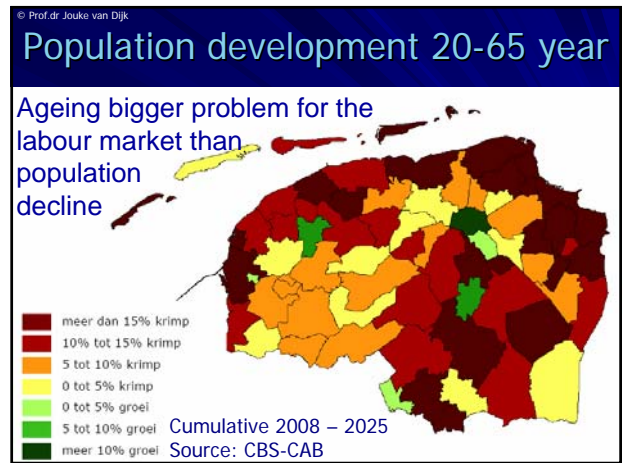
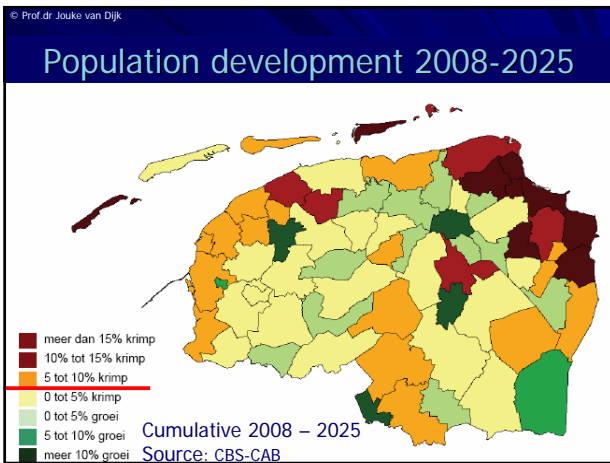




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### Population developments



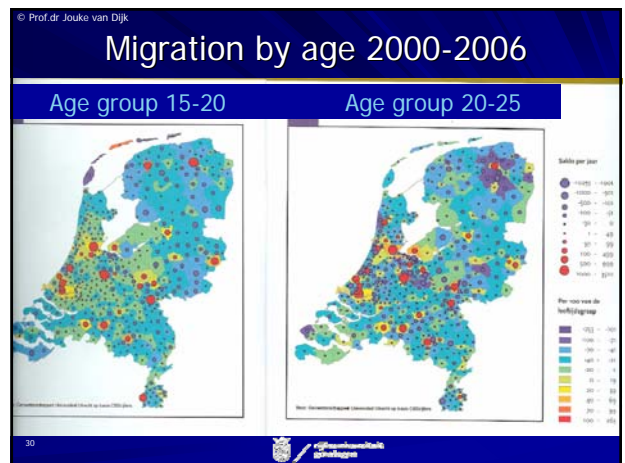


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**Doorwerken tot je 67<sup>e</sup>  
terwijl je op je 50<sup>e</sup>  
al afgeschreven bent**

[waarzijnwemeebezig.nl](http://waarzijnwemeebezig.nl)

achmea ontzorgt



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Population growth, in cities, but declining rural areas:

**the escalator model**

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Net migration flows in the Netherlands:

1948/1952  
1958/1962  
1973/1977  
1996/2000

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### Summary

- Netherlands in Europe: high participation rate, low number of working hours, low unemployment
- North vs NL: employment growth equals NL growth, economic structure more similar, unemployment higher, but gap decreases
- Hardly population decline, strong ageing effect with substantial regional differences
- Migration, commuting, escalator model
- Positive agglomeration effects versus negative congestion effects

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### Labour market policy agenda

- Increase employability 45+; life-long-learning
- Increase labour productivity: schooling & innovation, Healthy Ageing
- Maximize educational level, no school drop-outs
- Increase effectivity and efficiency active labour market policy: local / regional best practices
- Increase number of working hours and/or years? More or better childcare? Change school hours?
- Reform social security, employment protection legislation for more labour market flexibility?

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