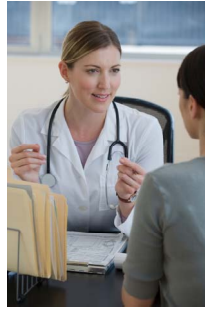


Demographic Transition in Rural Areas: The Relationship between Public Services and Tourism Development



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Trier, 25.8.2012

Agenda

Demographic Transition in Rural Areas: The Relationship between Public Services and Tourism Development

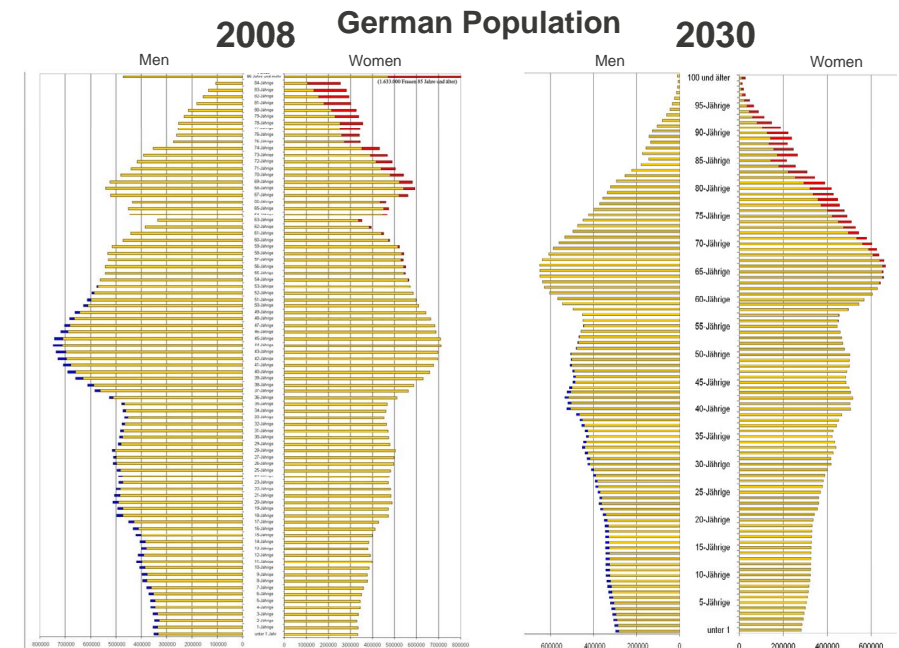
- Demographic transition in Germany
- Demographic transition in east Germany
- Implications of demographic transition in rural Germany: the case of "Feldberger Seenlandschaft"
- Conclusion and outlook

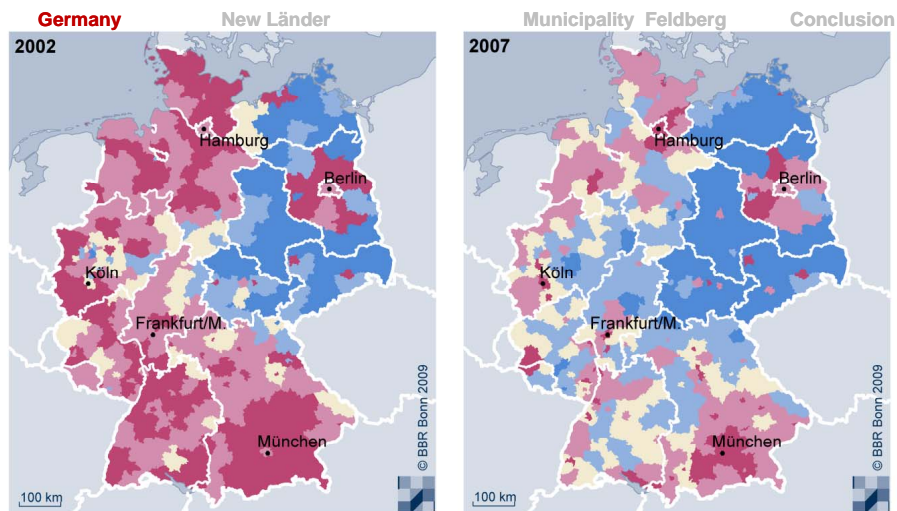
Tourism Development and Demographic Transition

Tourism development especially in rural areas is strongly influenced by the fundamental demographic transition.

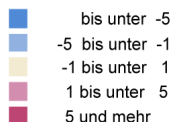
Background:

- Especially rural northern Germany is strongly affected
- East-western migration led to substantial brain drain
- Lack of qualified employees especially in health destinations





Internal migration:
difference between influx and out flux / 1000 inhabitants



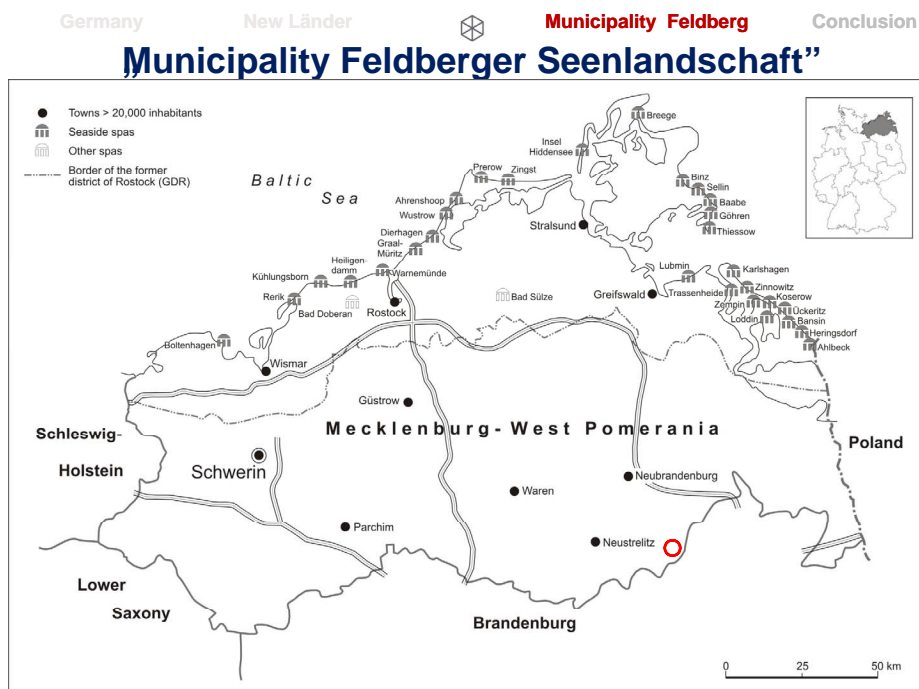
Source: BBSR (Bundesinstitut für Bau-, Stadt- und Raumforschung) www.bbr.bund.de

Fertility Rate in German Democratic Republic / East Germany

GDR / East Germany:

- 1980: 1.94
- 1990: 1.52
- 1994: 0.77
- 2004: 1.31

→ sharp decrease in young people



Inhabitants in Feldberger Seelandschaft

	Inhabitants		Male / Female	
	2008	2030	2008	2030
Germany	82.0 m		49.0 % M 51.0 % F	
M-V	1.66 m		49.6 % M 50.4 % F	
Feldberg	4,712		50.1 % M 49.9 % F	

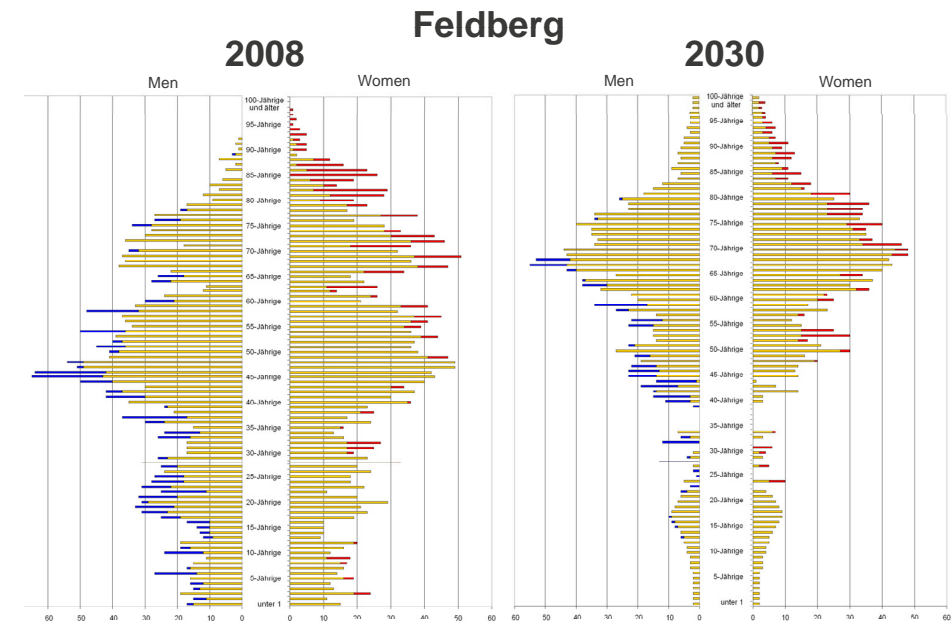


Inhabitants in Feldberger Seelandschaft

	Ratio below 18 years		Ratio age 65 years and above		Average age	
	2008	2030	2008	2030	2008	2030
Germany	16.7 %		20.4 %		43.6 years	
M-V	12.9 %		21.7 %		44.5 years	
Feldberg	12.2 %		25.7 %		47.7 years	



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Economic Power Feldberg

- High unemployment rate: 21.2%
(M-V: 17.8%, Germany: 7.8%)
- Tax income:
246.50 Euro per capita (M-V: 402.60 Euro)



Feldberg as a Health Tourism Destination

- **1855:** Establishment of institution for water treatments with 200 beds ("Sanatorium Feldberg")
- **GDR (1972):** certified tourism destination mainly for camping and day trippers
- **1998:** new rehabilitation clinics with a total of 200 beds



Educational Infrastructure Feldberg

- Very low share of inhabitants with university degree: 12.2% (M-V: 15.2%, Germany: 21.2%)
- Little educational infrastructure (no academic upper secondary school)

Per 1,000 inhabitants	Feldberg	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	Germany
Kindergarten / day care	0,634	0,624	k.A.
Primary school	0,211	0,148	0,200
Secondary modern school (Hauptschule)	0	k.A.	0,052
Secondary modern school (Realschulen)	0,211	k.A.	0,052
Secondary school (Gymnasium)	0	0,034	0,037
Adult education centre (Volkshochschulen)	0	0,011*	k.A.

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Educational Infrastructure

- Organisation of low threshold services for children, young adults and adults
- continuous education models
- privately owned higher education (schools and universities)



Health Infrastructure Feldberg

- 0.6 doctors / 1,000 inhabitants in Feldberg (M-V: 1.7)
- All of them are general practitioners
- Specialised doctors of rehabilitation clinics are not allowed to treat local community or tourists



→ Change in politics is needed to strengthen health infrastructure in rural areas

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Conclusion

- Decrease in population as a vicious circle:
 - decrease in labour force
 - less tax payers resulting in less money e.g. for infrastructure resulting in less attractiveness
 - less employment opportunities
- Educational infrastructure and high wages are important aspects for competitive strength
 - reducing minimum size of classes
 - lifting wages for employees in tourism
 - assisting doctors financially
- Regional and national politics need to be adapted
 - e.g. included the search for medical practitioners as one of the targets in the general project plan for the development of the health industry in the state

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Thank you for your attention!

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