

Gender Equality Atlas for Lower Saxony



Lower Saxony

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Notice:

- The indicator tables contained in this atlas are available online at: www.ms.niedersachsen.de
> Themen > Gleichberechtigung [in German only]
- The atlas is optimized for double-sided prints

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0.2 Introduction

Gender equality should not be just a buzzword. Rather, it must be defined by indicators, figures and targets. To be sustainable, gender equality policy is reliant on this information. Reliable data can significantly support well-founded, target-oriented gender equality policy. The question is how and with what data social trends can be illustrated in the complex policy area of gender equality. The development of indicators has proven useful in other policy areas such as environment protection, demographic change and sustainable development. They can provide information on situations which are not readily measurable, and they can highlight temporal changes and describe how complex structures come about.

This is why, on 31 May 2007, the 17th Conference of Gender Equality and Women's Affairs Ministers (GFMK) agreed the introduction of a standardised, cross-state indicator system to illustrate the current status of and trends in gender equality policy. Because the indicators had to be comparable and identified using the same statistical basis in all Länder, public statistics were preferentially used as the basis for this work. In the case of data on the jobs market, statistics published by the Federal Employment Agency were used. While this imposes restrictions on statistics selection, it guarantees data availability and comparability. The Gender Equality Atlas for Germany published in July 2009 by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMBFSJ) contains the findings of this indicator-supported appraisal.

This Gender Equality Atlas for Lower Saxony takes the form of a regionalised appraisal. To the greatest extent possible and where appropriate, the indicators contained in the Gender Equality Atlas for Germany were broken down and applied to the State of Lower Saxony, its districts and municipalities, and the city and region of Hanover. Given Hanover's special importance as the capital city of Lower Saxony, the region of Hanover has wherever possible been divided into the City of Hanover and its surrounding areas. Data on the Hanover region as a whole are provided in the legends to the maps and as footnotes in the diagrams. The data was revised for 2008. The regionalised indicator catalogue for Lower Saxony contains 17 indicators in four categories:

1. Participation – 1 indicator
2. Education and Vocational Training – 6 indicators
3. Work and Income – 8 indicators
4. Social Environment – 2 indicators

First, the indicator data are described and illustrated with maps and diagrams.* The colours used for the diagrams and maps represent the indicator type:

Red represents information relating to the percentage of women

Blue represents information relating to the percentage of men

Orange represents other information, for example relating to the difference between the percentages of women and men.

In the coloured sections of the maps showing women's and men's percentages, the average for Lower Saxony is used with regional deviations shown in a different colour. In the maps depicting the differences between women's and men's percentages, the differences are shown with the men's percentage set at 100, while the higher women's percentage is depicted with coloured graduations. Normally, five categories are shown with coloured graduations.

* For technical reasons, the text contained in the illustrations and the headlines above illustrations has not been translated. We apologize for any inconvenience and ask for your understanding.

I. Participation

One of the most frequent measures for gender equality used in public is the representation of women and men in management positions and decisionmaking functions. This applies to participation in decisionmaking processes at all levels of political, business, social and cultural life.

The EU speaks of wanting to achieve “balanced participation of women and men in decisionmaking processes”. It does not, however, define the word “balanced”. Nonetheless, it strives for parity in participation. Most EU countries see a 30 percent representation as the ‘critical mass’ for effective influence by women and men.¹

This critical mass of 30 percent is achieved in state (Länder) parliaments only, with a national average of 32 percent women. This Atlas is limited to participation in municipal bodies.

In the local elections in Lower Saxony in 2006, the percentage of women among the mandates in the district and municipal councils was 24.2 percent.

1) Report from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee on the implementation of Council recommendation 96/694 of 2nd December 1996 on the balanced participation of women and men in the decision-making process COM/2000/0120 final.

2) Source: Gender Equality Atlas for Germany, p. 8.

1. Mandates in administrative district and municipal councils, and in the regional councils and the Hanover City Council

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage share of women among mandate holders in the respective municipal administrations.

Methodological notes: The survey took the total number of women mandate holders in the administrative district and municipal councils, and in the Hanover regional council. The percentage of women was additionally assessed for it because of Hanover's importance as state capital. On the map, the colour used to depict the area corresponding to the Hanover region is equal to the number of women in the regional council. The percentage of women and men on district and city councils was not covered in the survey. No attempt was made to identify replacements who step in when members leave office.

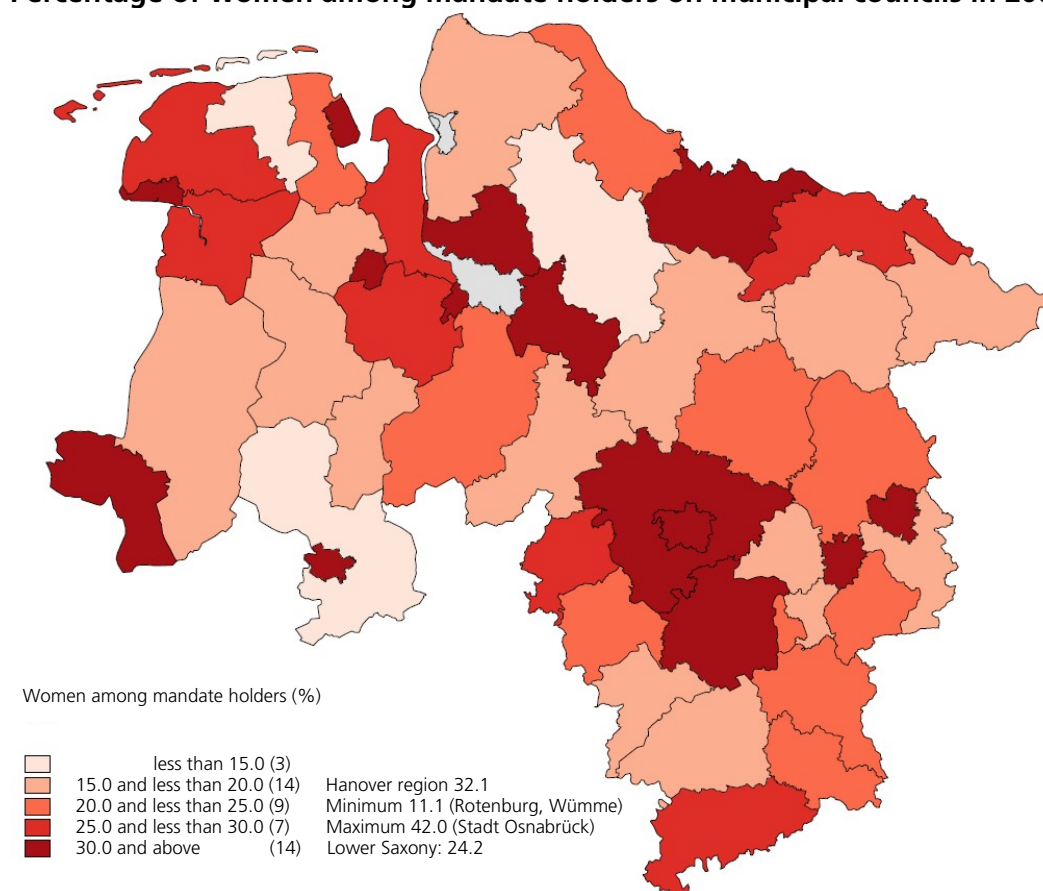
Source: Official election statistics

This indicator shows the extent to which women are represented in municipal administrations. It points to:

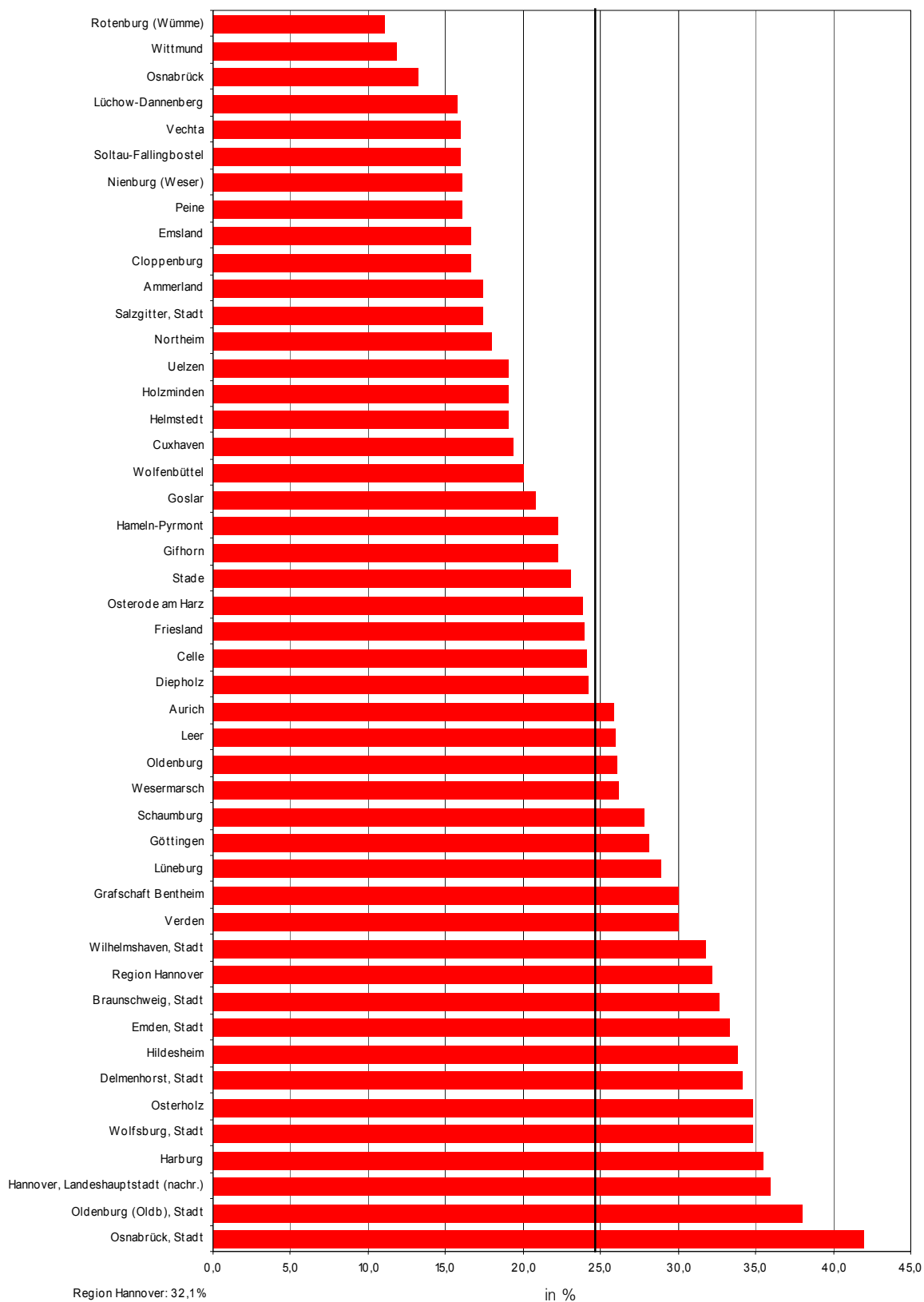
- Trends in political and social culture
- Women's political influence at municipal level
- The composition of municipal councils
- The attitudes of the electorate
-

Of the 2,352 mandate holders (male and female) in Lower Saxony, 574 were women (24.4 percent).

Percentage of women among mandate holders on municipal councils in 2006



Frauenanteil an den Mandaten in den kommunalen Vertretungen 2006



II. Education and Vocational Education and Training

As our industrialised society rapidly becomes a knowledge society, education plays an ever greater role. This applies both to society's chances of securing competitive and innovation ability and social cohesion, and also to individual opportunities on the jobs market, earning opportunities and participation in society.

Given the importance of school-leaving qualifications, six indicators were selected. In respect of educational qualifications, significant gender differences are apparent. More young women than young men have higher education qualifications.

2.1 School leavers leaving secondary schools without any qualifications

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of boys among school leavers from secondary schools who leave with no qualifications.

Methodological notes: The figures include public and private secondary schools. Source: Statistics for secondary schools and vocational schools and colleges (school year 2007/2008).

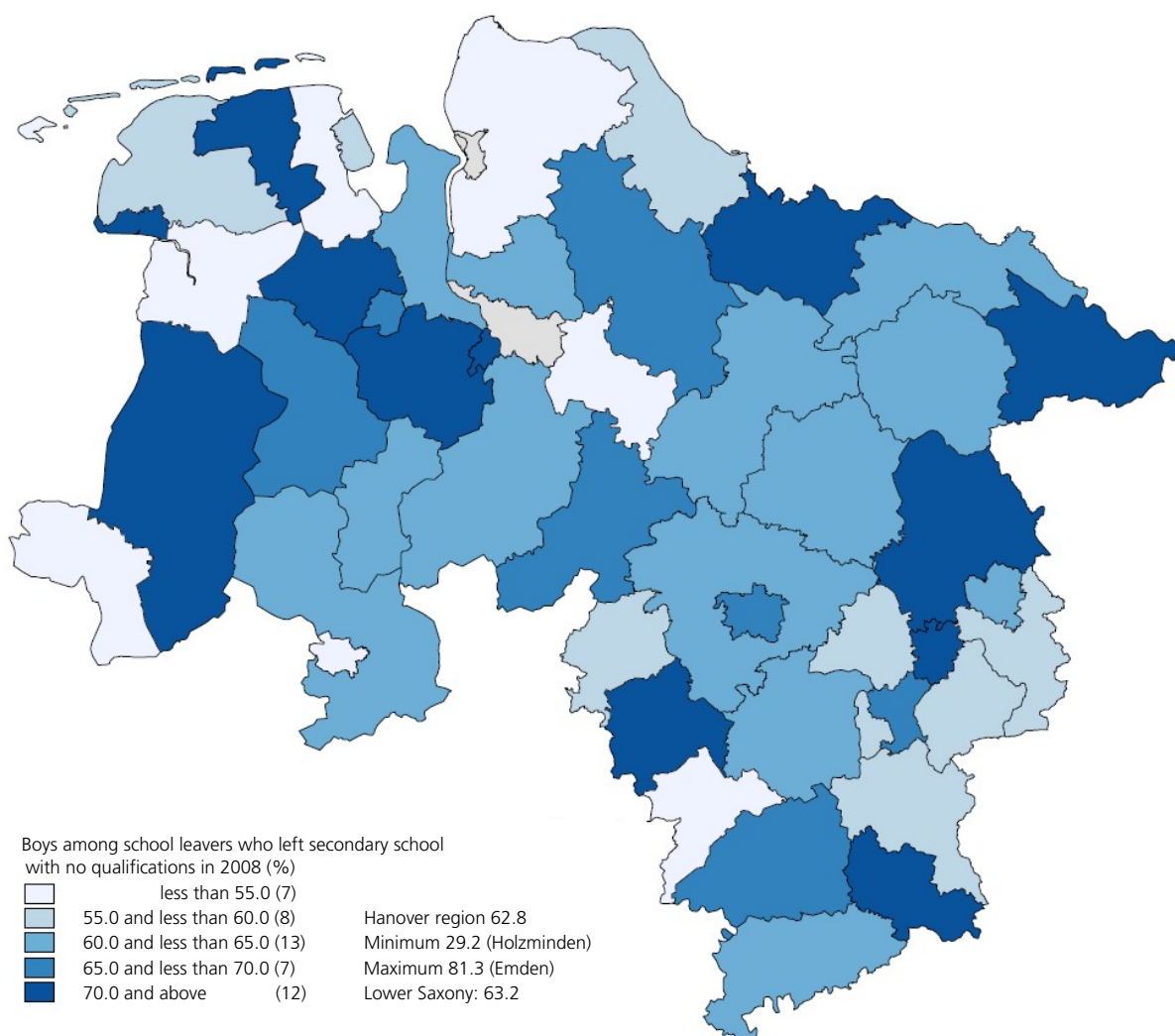
Source: Statistics for secondary schools and vocational schools and colleges (school year 2007/2008).

The indicator shows the percentage of boys among school leavers who leave school without any qualifications. It points to:

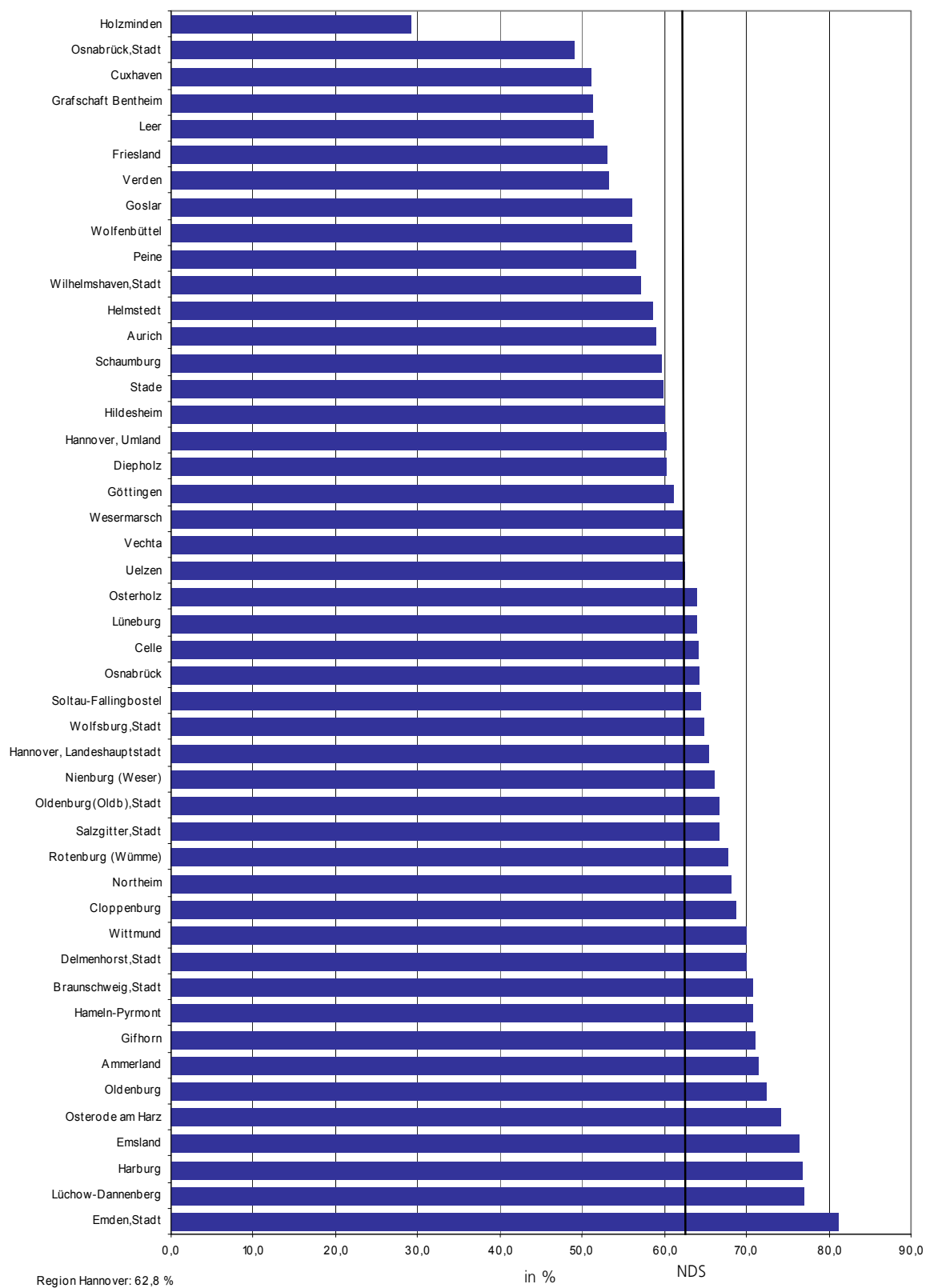
- Gender-specific educational differences
- The presence of a gender-equitable school environment
- The level at which gender-specific teaching concepts have been implemented
- Gender competence in everyday school life.

Of the 3,528 school leavers in Lower Saxony who left secondary school in school year 2007/2008 with no qualifications, 63.2 percent were male.

Percentage of boys among school leavers who left secondary school with no qualifications in 2008



Jungenanteil an Abgängerinnen und Abgängern aus allgemein bildenden Schulen ohne Schulabschluss 2008



2.2 School leavers who left secondary schools with Hauptschulabschluss qualifications

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of boys among school leavers who left secondary school with Hauptschulabschluss qualifications

Methodological notes: The figures include public and private secondary schools.

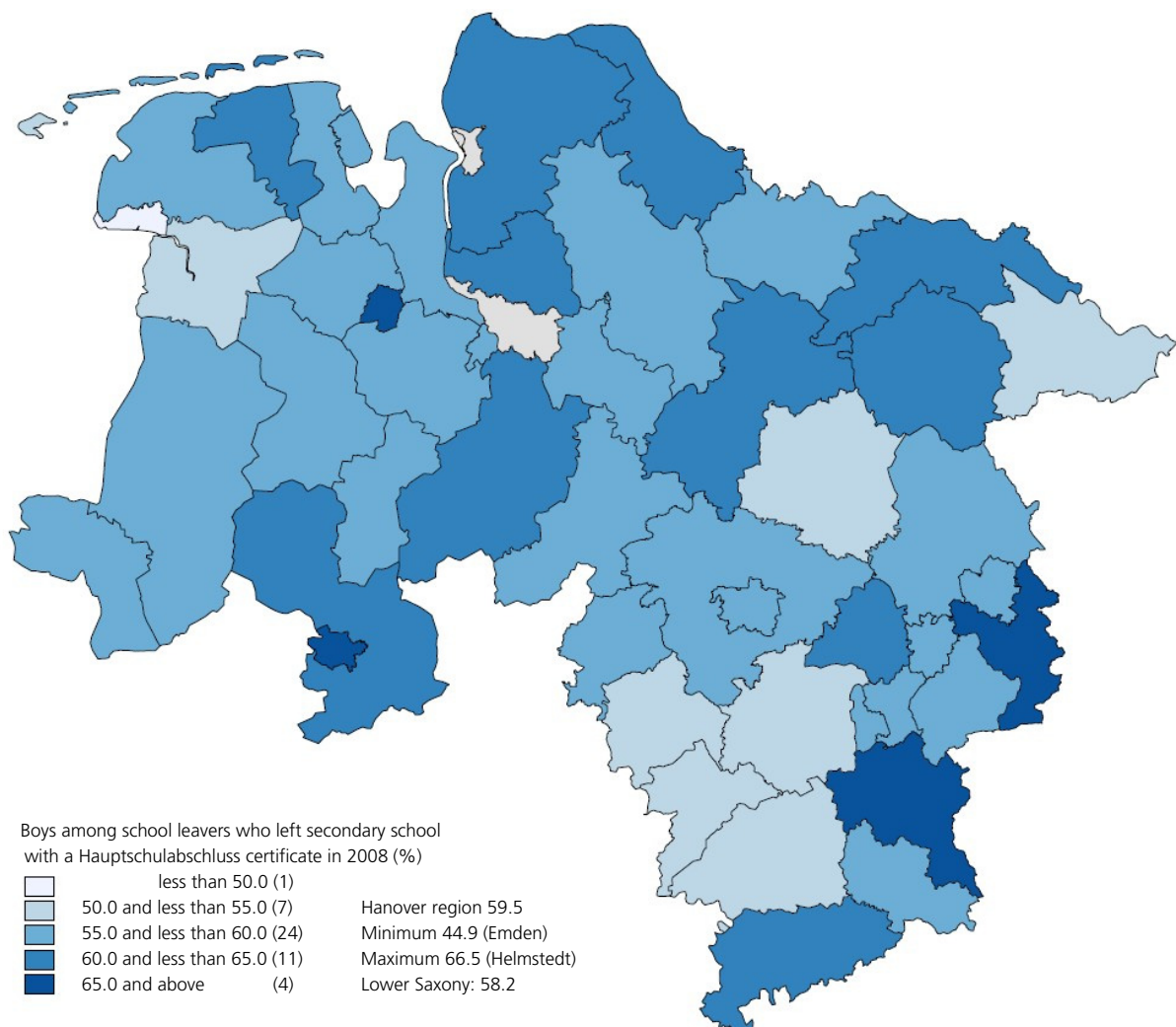
Source: Statistics for secondary schools and vocational schools and colleges (school year 2006/2007).

The indicator points to:

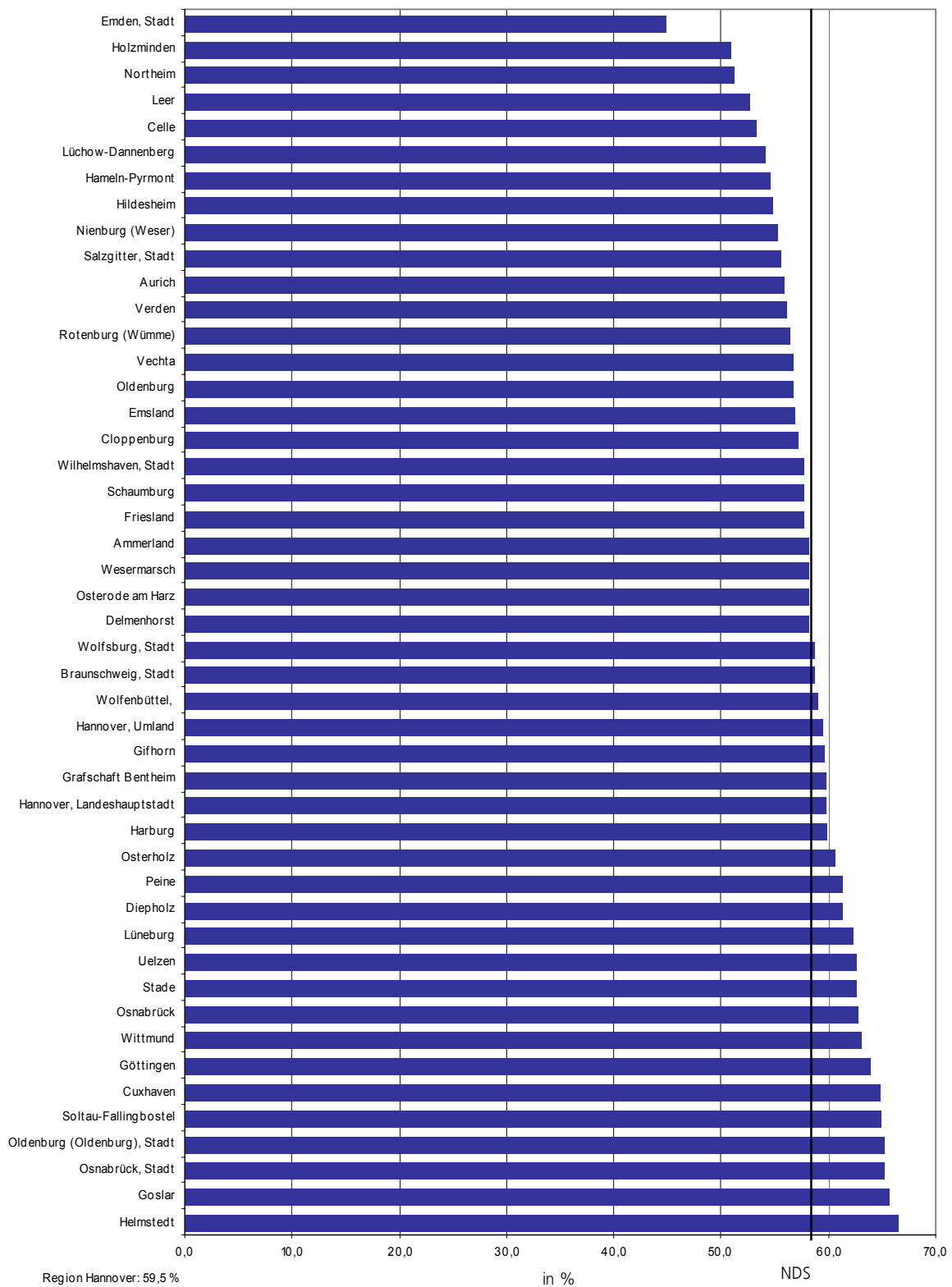
- Gender-specific educational differences
- The presence of a gender-equitable school environment.
- The level at which gender-specific teaching concepts have been implemented.
- Gender competence in everyday school life.

Of 17,334 school leavers who left secondary school in Lower Saxony in school year 2007/2008 with a Hauptschulabschluss certificate, 58.4 percent were male.

Percentage of boys among school leavers who left secondary school with a Hauptschulabschluss certificate in 2008



Jungenanteil an den Abgängerinnen und Abgängern aus allgemein bildenden Schulen mit Hauptschulabschluss 2008



2.3 School leavers leaving secondary school with a Realschulabschluss qualification

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of boys among school leavers who leave secondary school with Realschulabschluss qualifications.

Methodological notes: The figures include public and private secondary schools. The Realschulabschluss qualification is equivalent to Sekundarabschluss I (ordinary level secondary school leaving qualifications).

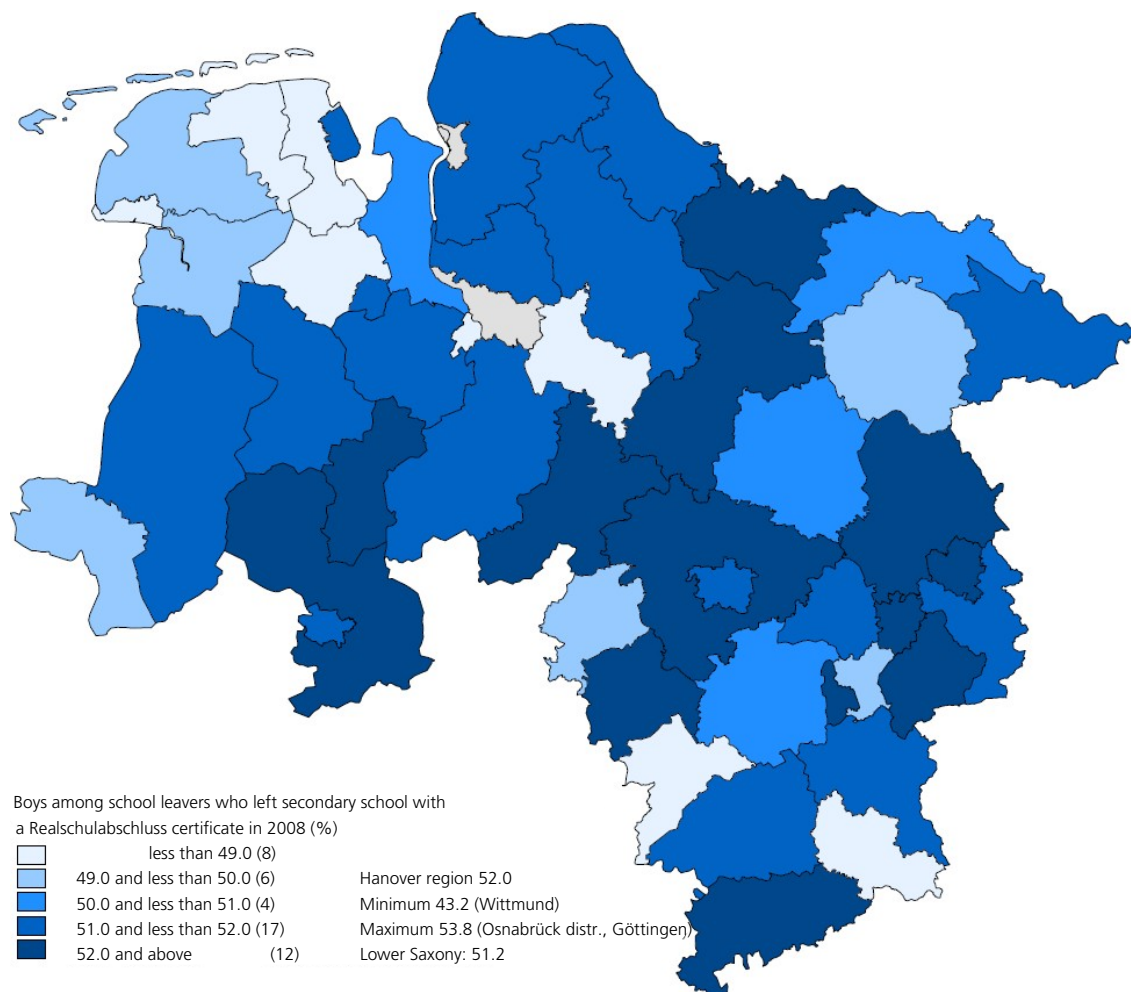
Source: Statistics for secondary schools (school year 2007/2008)

The indicator points to:

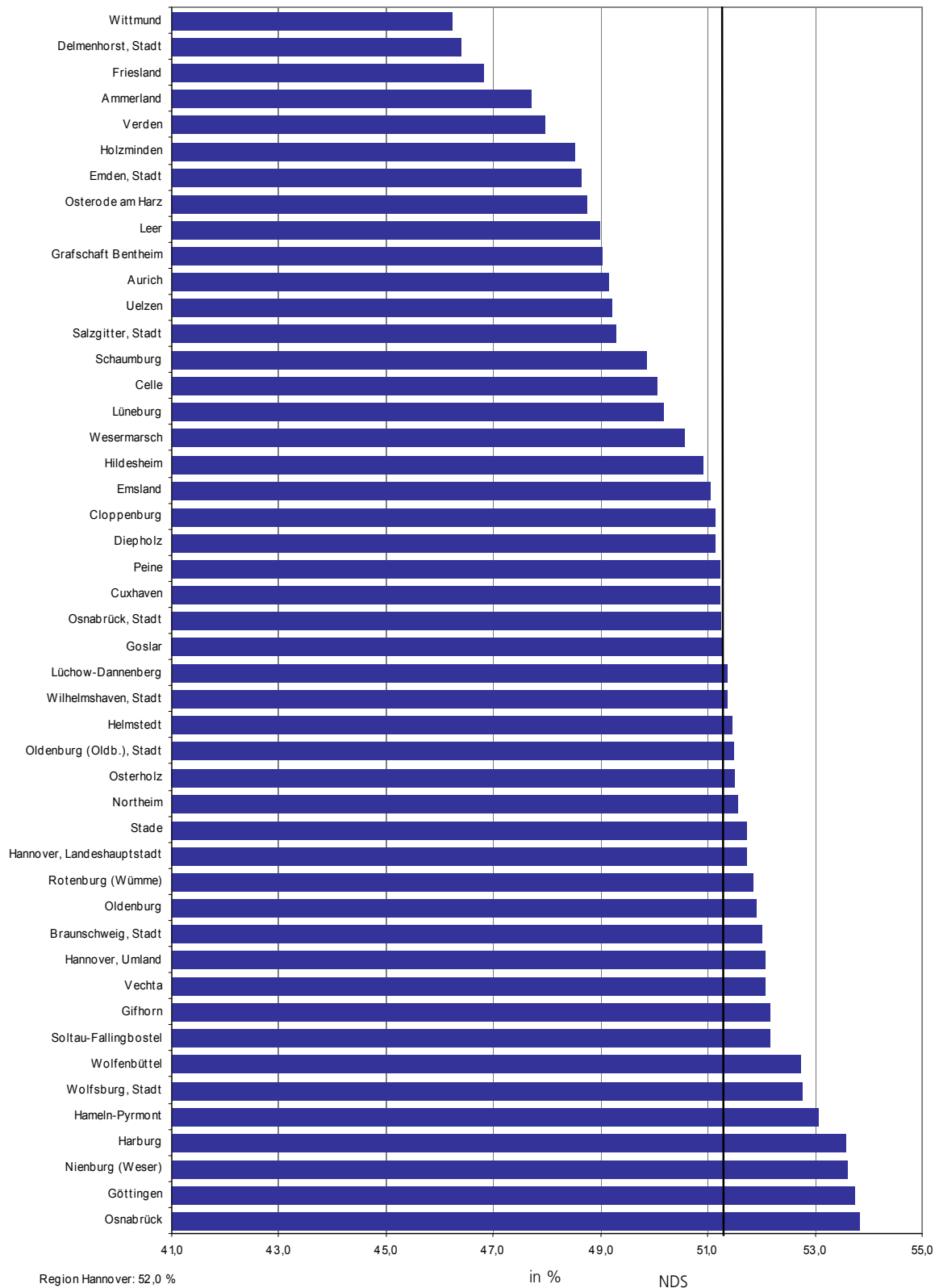
- Gender-specific educational differences
- The presence of a gender-equitable school environment.
- The level at which gender-specific teaching concepts have been implemented.
- Gender competence in everyday school life.

Of 43,869 school leavers who left secondary school in Lower Saxony with Realschulabschluss qualifications in school year 2007/2008, 51.2 percent were male.

Percentage of boys among school leavers who left secondary school with a Realschulabschluss certificate in 2008



Jungenanteil an den Abgängerinnen und Abgängern aus allgemein bildenden Schulen mit Realschulabschluss 2008



2.4 School leavers leaving secondary school with Hochschulreife university entrance qualifications

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of boys among school leavers who leave secondary schools with Hochschulreife university entrance qualifications.

Methodological notes: The figures include public and private secondary schools. School leavers leaving secondary schools with Fachhochschulreife technical college entrance qualifications were not surveyed.

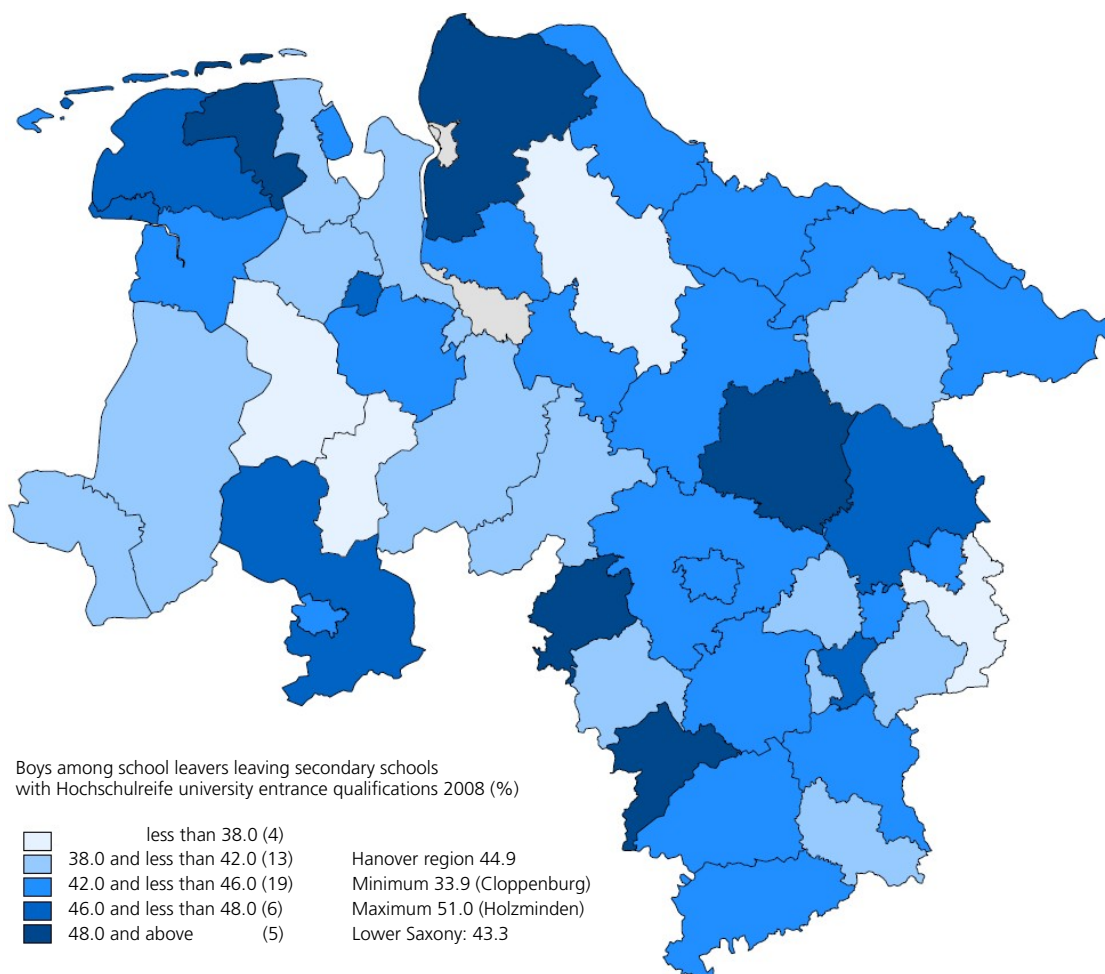
Source: Statistics for secondary schools (school year 2006/2007).

The indicator points to:

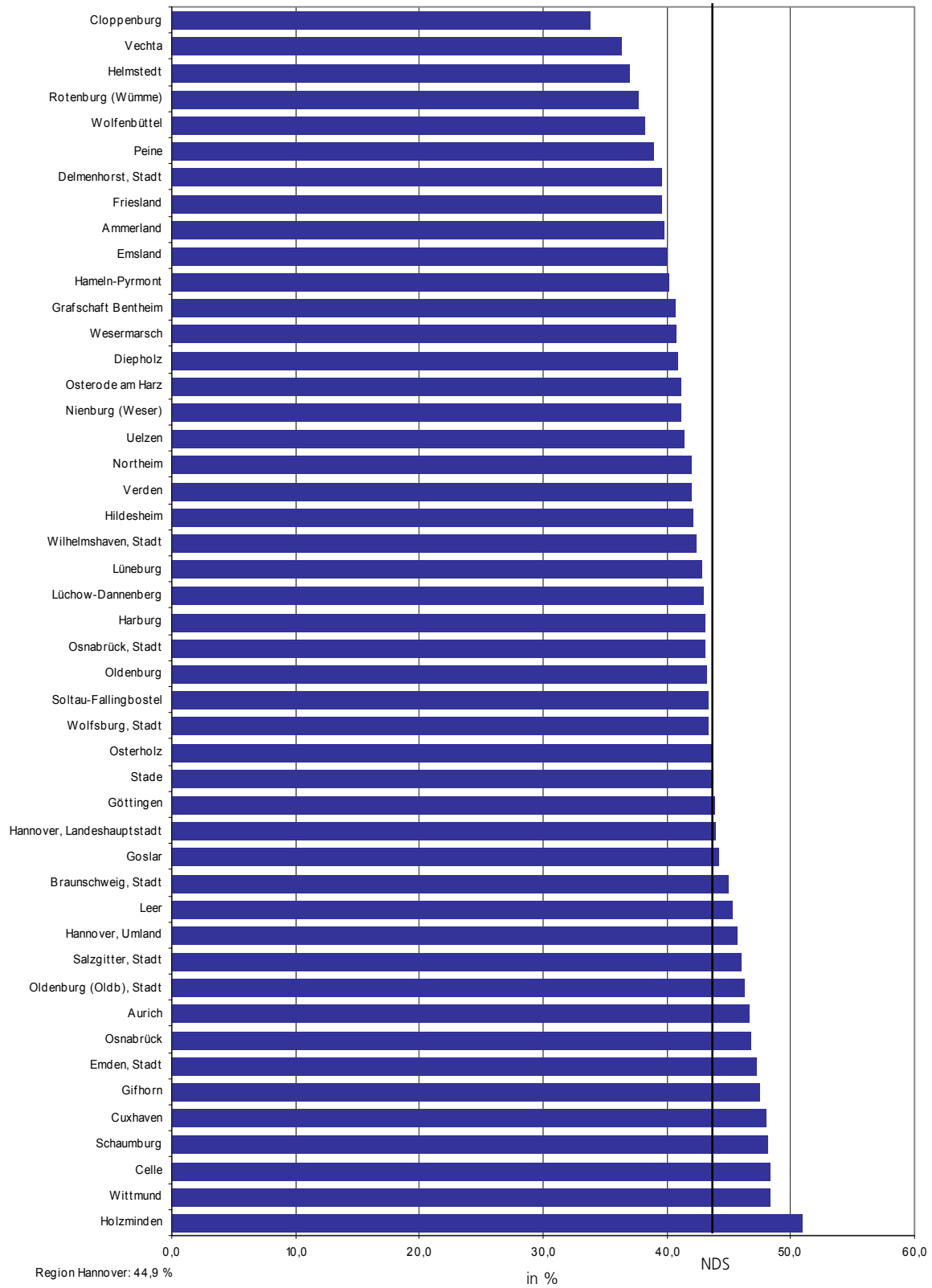
- Gender-specific educational differences
- The presence of a gender-equitable school environment.
- The level at which gender-specific teaching concepts have been implemented.
- Gender competence in everyday school life.

Of 20,921 school leavers who left secondary school in Lower Saxony with Hochschulreife qualifications in school year 2007/2008, 43.3 percent were male.

Percentage of boys among school leavers leaving secondary schools with Hochschulreife university entrance qualifications 2008



Jungenanteil an den Abgängerinnen und Abgängern aus allgemein bildenden Schulen mit Hochschulreife 2008



2.5 School leavers leaving vocational schools and colleges with Hochschulreife university entrance qualifications

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of boys among school leavers who leave vocational schools and technical colleges with Hochschulreife university entrance qualifications (including subject-specific university entrance qualifications).

Methodological notes: The figures include school leavers with Hochschulreife and subject-related Hochschulreife university entrance qualifications.

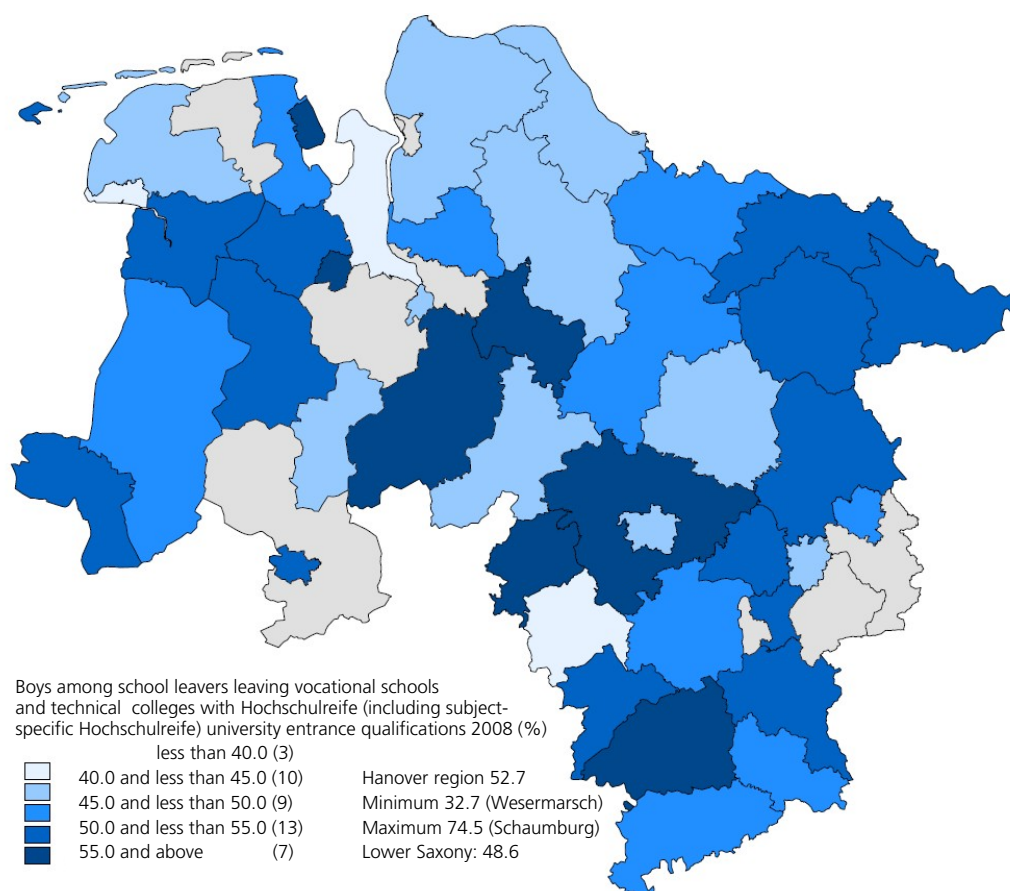
Source: Statistics for vocational schools and colleges (school year 2007/2008)

The indicator points to:

- Gender-specific educational differences
- The presence of a gender-equitable school environment.
- The level at which gender-specific teaching concepts have been implemented.
- Gender competence in everyday school life.

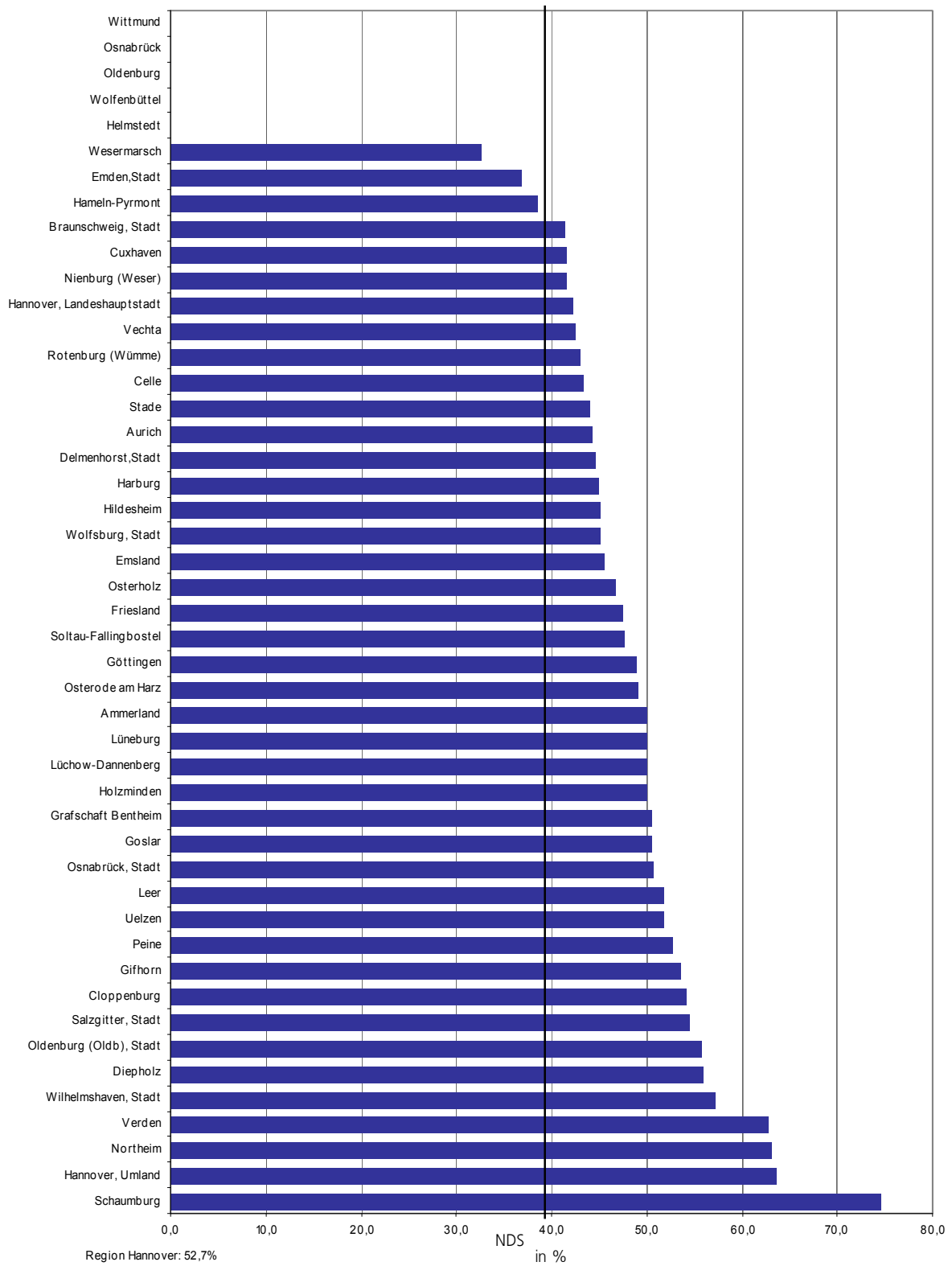
Of 4,937 school leavers who left vocational schools and technical colleges in Lower Saxony with Hochschulreife qualifications in school year 2007/2008, 48.6 percent were male.

Percentage of boys among school leavers leaving vocational schools and technical colleges with Hochschulreife (including subject-related Hochschulreife) university entrance qualifications 2008



The grey areas refer to Bremen and Bremerhaven, and to the respective districts and municipalities in which there is no vocational school or technical college at which students can attain Hochschulreife university entrance qualification.

Jungenanteil an den Abgängerinnen und Abgängern aus berufsbildenden Schulen mit Hochschulreife 2008



2.6 School leavers leaving vocational schools and technical colleges with subject-specific Fachhochschulreife university entrance qualifications

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of boys among school leavers from vocational school and technical colleges who leave with Fachhochschulreife in 2008.

Methodological notes: The figures include school leavers with Fachhochschulreife qualifications. #

Source: Statistics for vocational schools and technical colleges (school year 2007/2008)

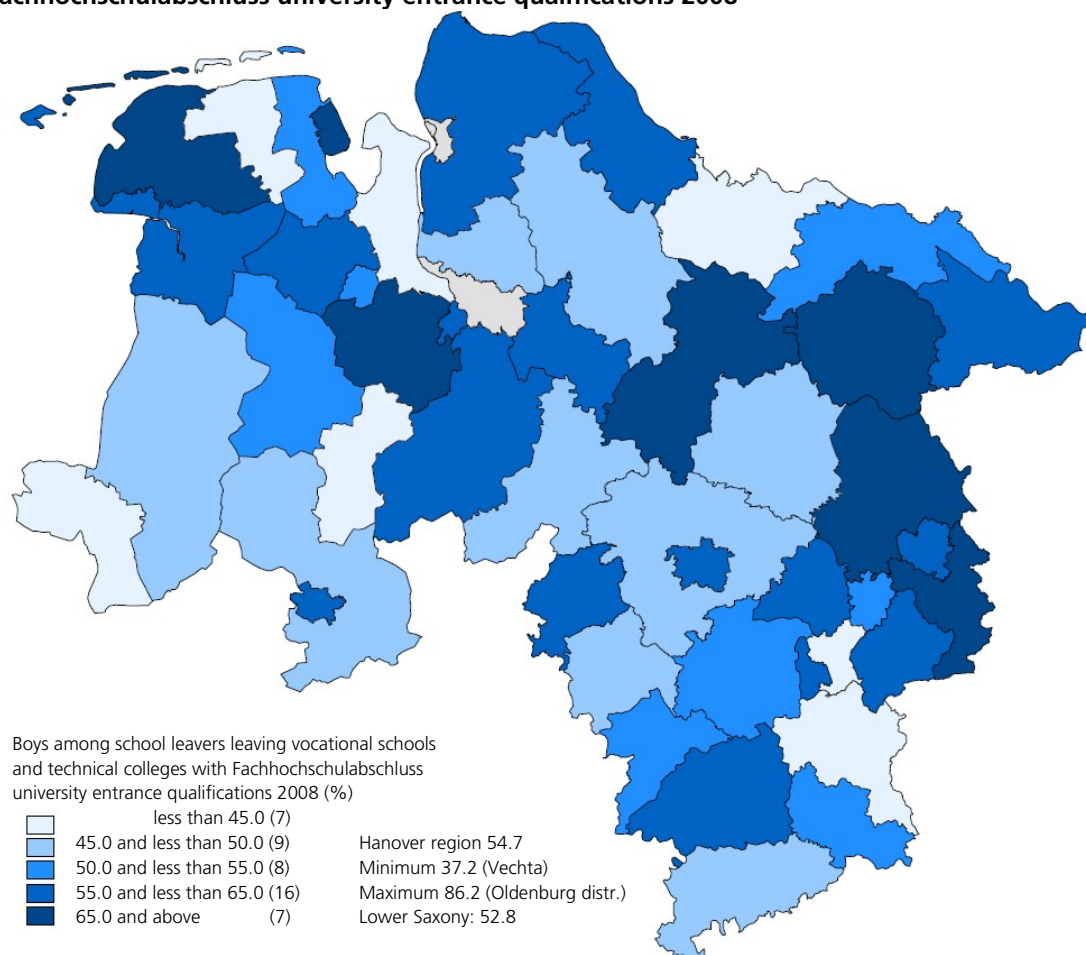
The indicator points to:

- Gender-specific educational differences
- The presence of a gender-equitable school environment.
- The level at which gender-specific teaching concepts have been implemented.
- Gender competence in everyday school life.

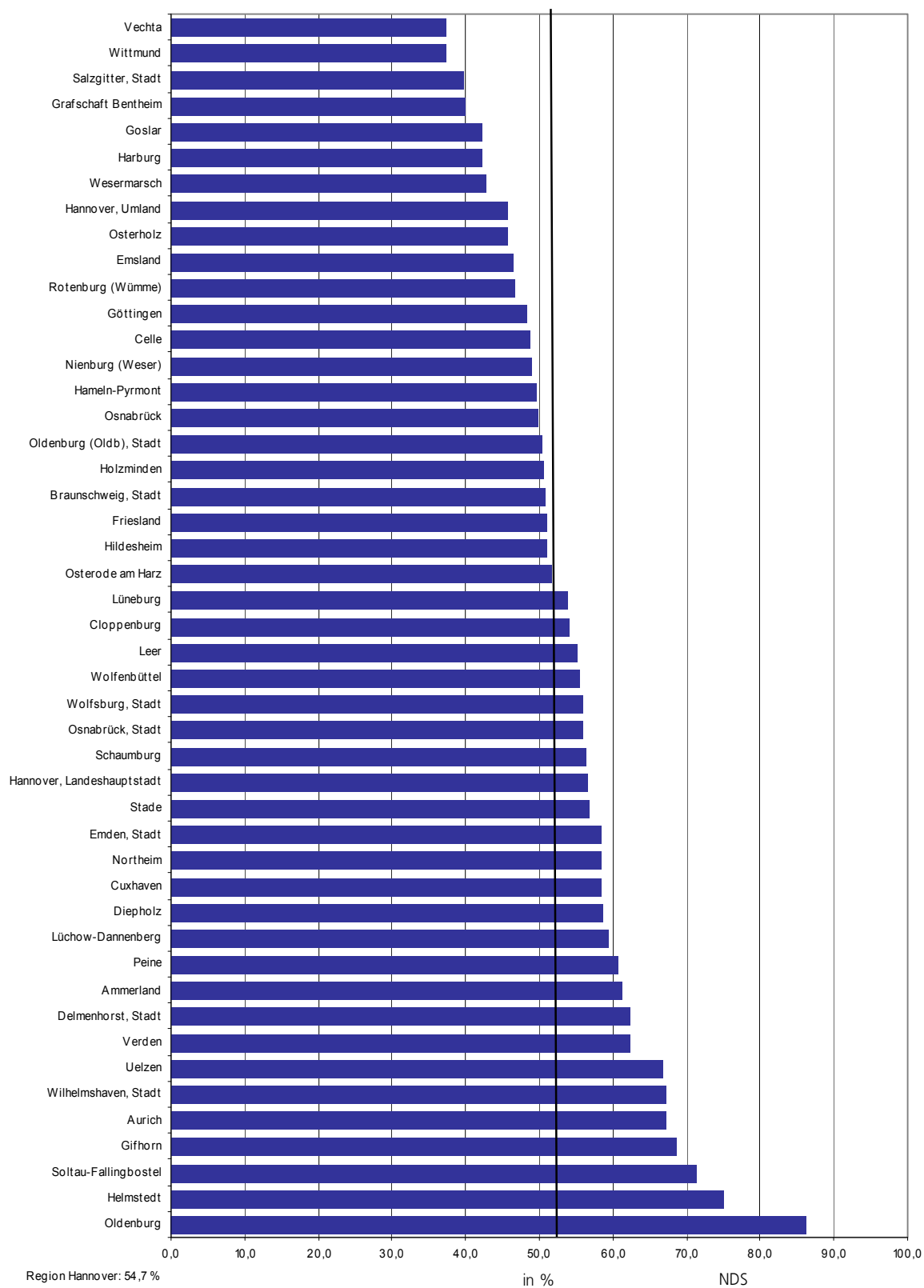
Of 10,493 school leavers who left vocational school or technical college (Fachschule or Fachoberschule) in Lower Saxony with Fachhochschulabschluss university entrance qualifications in school year 2008, 52.8 percent were male.

In 31 of 47 districts and municipalities, the percentage of male school leavers with an additional subject-specific Fachhochschulreife university entrance qualification is higher than that of female school leavers (66 percent). Boys dominate technical and business-focused school forms, while girls do so in schools where the curriculum concentrates on social affairs, the care sector, and the hospitality industry. Given this gender-specific school preference, particular attention is paid in regional comparisons to the subjects offered by the individual schools and colleges.

Percentage of boys among school leavers leaving vocational schools and technical colleges with Fachhochschulabschluss university entrance qualifications 2008



Jungenanteil an Abgängerinnen und Abgängern aus berufsbildenden Schulen mit Fachhochabschluss 2008



III. Work and Income

Among the main social changes in the past ten years are the growing numbers of women who go to work. While the ratio of women in the jobs market has steadily increased, the ratio of men is stagnating. But focusing purely on employment figures is not enough, because despite the rise in numbers, the percentage of women in employment has not risen apace.

One reason lies in the traditional gender-specific division of work. Women do the unpaid work of keeping the house, caring for the family and bringing up the children, and thus have only a limited amount of time in which they could take up gainful employment. Given the difficulties of balancing family and work commitments, women usually work part-time or in what are referred to in Germany as minijobs that do not enable them to earn their own living. This has an impact on upward mobility and career opportunities, meaning that women often work in poorer paid jobs than men. Breaks from work to bring up a family and to work part-time are among the key factors which result in the fact that in Germany, an average 23 percent few women earn less than men. As the employment figures were traditionally higher in former eastern Germany, the gender pay gap in the new Länder lies at six percent (Federal Statistical Office 2008).

With regard to reconciling work and family life, childcare was taken up as an indicator. The childcare infrastructure, coupled with family-friends human resources development and organisational structures are central determinants of how work and family life can be reconciled, both for women **and** for men.

The change in employment structures highlights trends which do away with the image of men as the sole bread winners. The normal work profile of 'full-time work without a break until pensionable age', which men have generally held, is on the decline. Discontinuous work histories, meaning switching between phases of full-time employment, unemployment, part-time work and minijobs, will affect women and men alike.

The eight selected indicators show the current status within a changing society. They are a yardstick for the opportunities available to women and men in paid employment and in the home.

3.1 Compulsorily insured employees (employment rate)

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of compulsorily insured employees (women and men) in the 15 to 65 age group as an annual average in 2008 (employment rate of women and men).

Methodological notes: The employment statistics take in employees aged 15 to 65 who are compulsorily insured (health and pensions) or who must pay social security contributions under Book III of the German Social Code (SGB III). Marginal employees, civil servants, the self-employed and family members who act as unpaid helpers were not included in the survey.

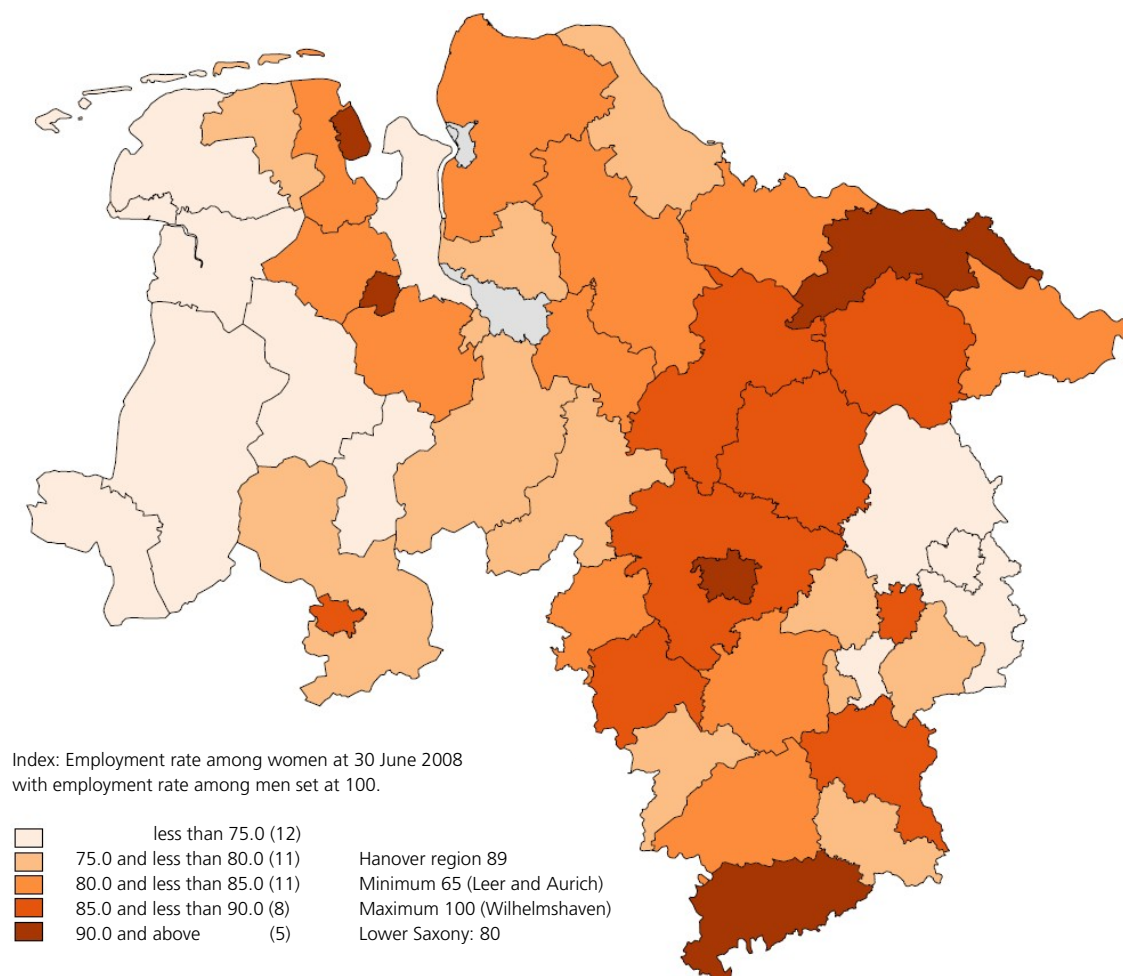
Source: Employment statistics published by the Federal Employment Agency 2007. The indicator highlights the quantitative differences in the participation of women and men in compulsorily insured employment.

The indicator points to:

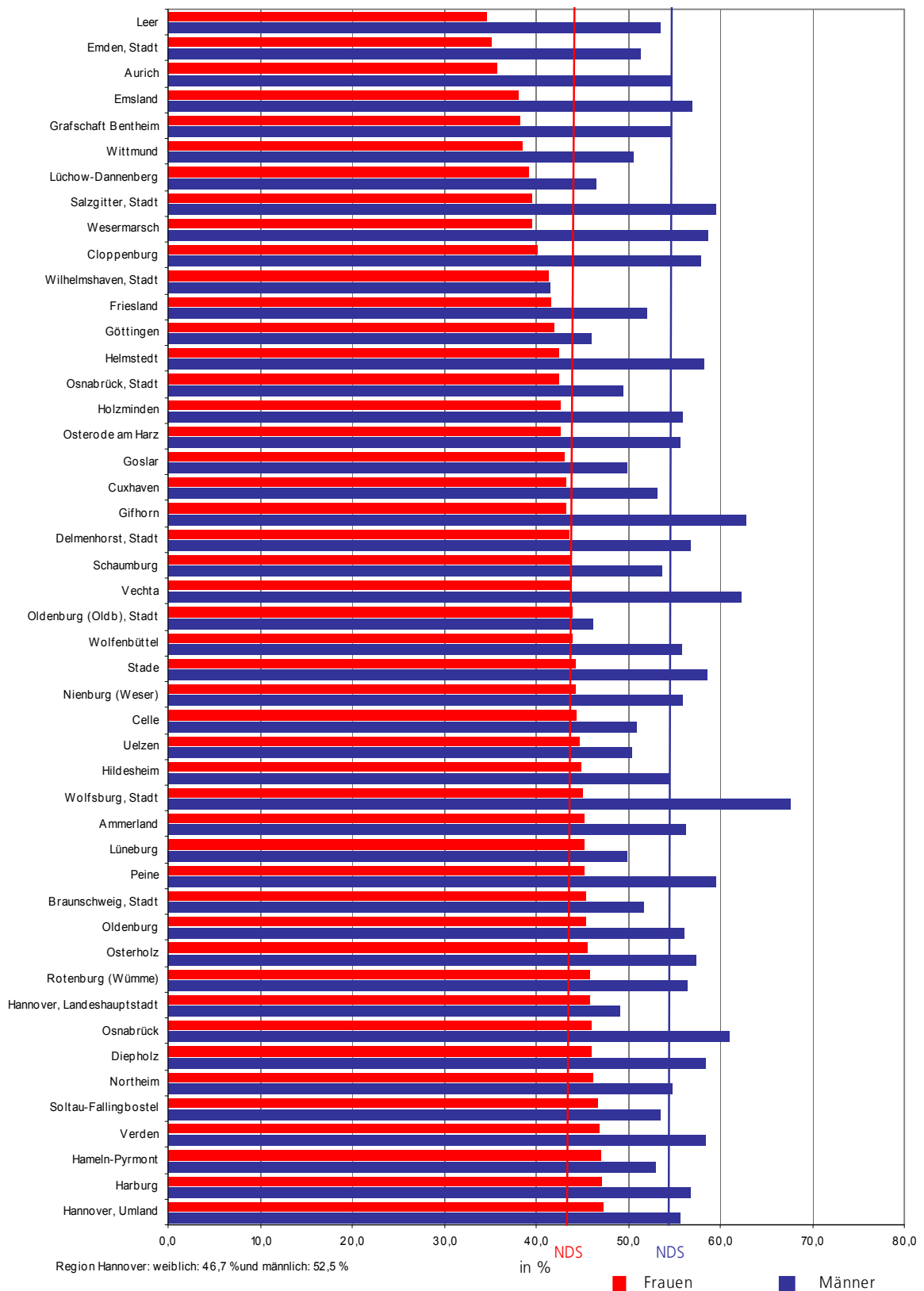
- Differences in the numbers of women and men in employment.
- The social situation and changes in traditional gender-specific division of work.

In Lower Saxony there were 2,542,711 compulsorily insured individuals in work (49.3 percent of the 5,158,698 people aged 15 to 65) on 30 June 2008, of which 1,116,467 were women (43.8 percent) and 1,426,244 were men (54.7 percent).

Employment Rates 2008



Beschäftigungsquote von Frauen und Männern 30.06.2008



3.2 Part-time employees who pay compulsory social insurance contributions

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of women and men working part-time relative to all compulsorily insured women and men (part-time figures).

Methodological note: Low-paid workers (minijobs), civil servants, the self-employed and unpaid family members were not included in the survey.

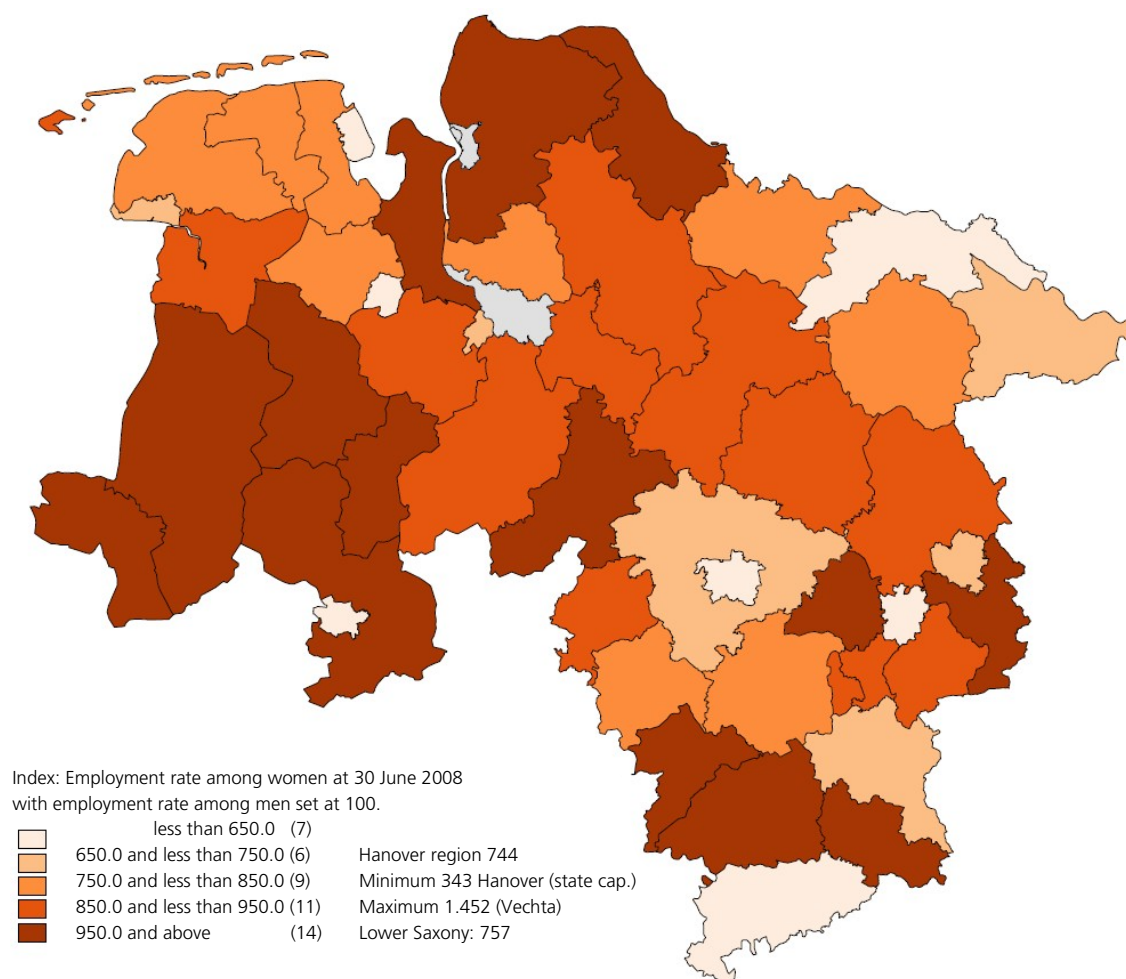
Source: Employment statistics published by the Federal Employment Agency

This indicator shows the considerable gender-specific differences in part-time work. It points to:

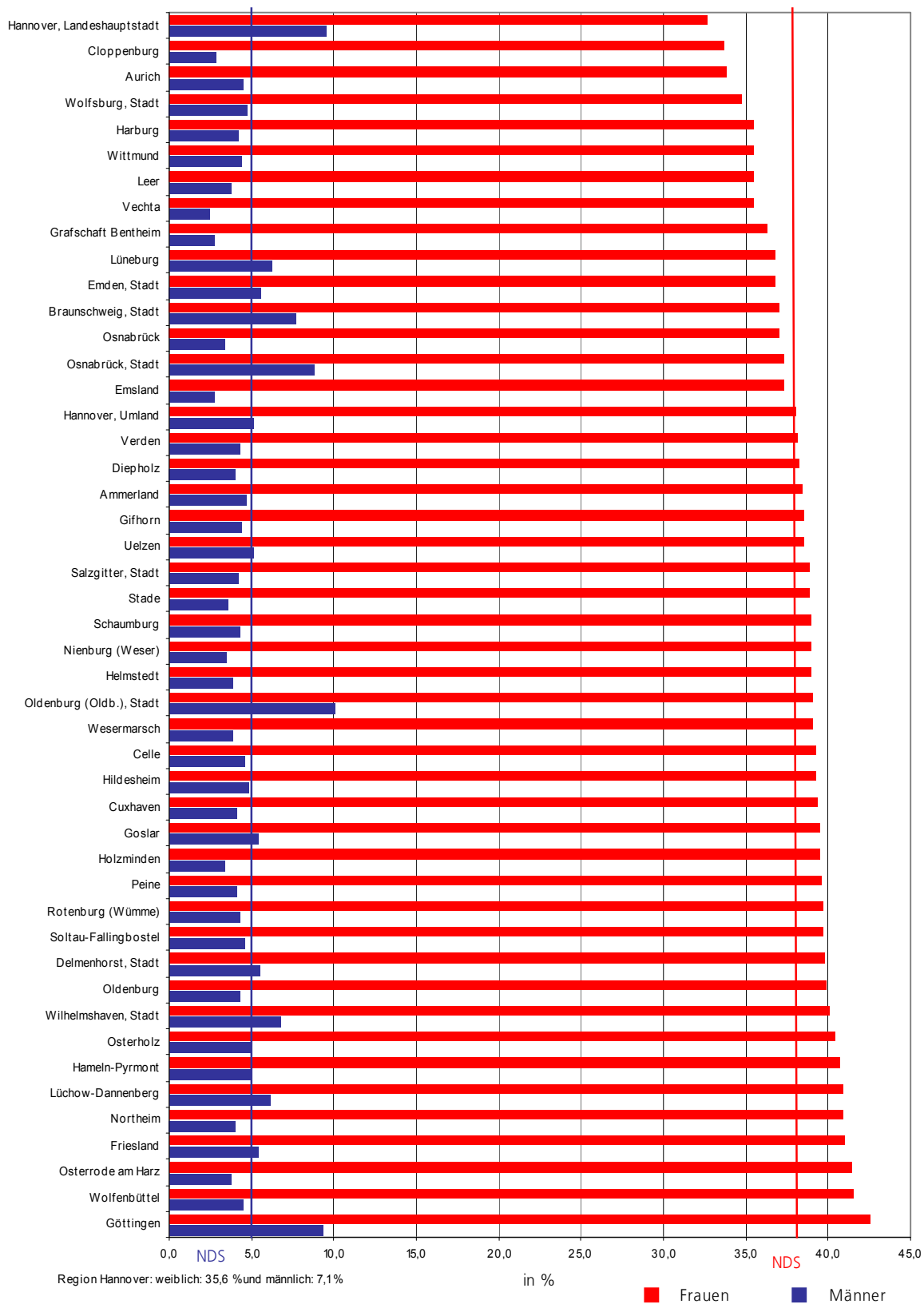
- Part-time work as typically a women's domain (modified bread-winner model with the wife earning pin-money)
- Women bearing most responsibility for raising children and/or caring for dependent family members
- Unfavourable employment trends and career opportunities for women, which could also be due to part-time working.

In Lower Saxony, there were 2,542,711 compulsorily insured people in work on 30 June 2008. This includes 464,318 part-time workers (19.5 percent), of which 423,521 were women (37.9%) and 71,467 men (5.0%).

Women in part-time work paying compulsory social insurance contributions on 30 July 2008



Teilzeitbeschäftigungsquote von Frauen und Männern am 30.06.2208



3.3 Marginal employees

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of women among low-paid employees in work on 30 July 2008

Methodological note: Marginal employees are those whose income from their employment does not exceed 400 per month (Book IV, Section 14 of the German Social Code). For the purposes of this Atlas, marginal employment taken alongside regular employment is not taken into account.

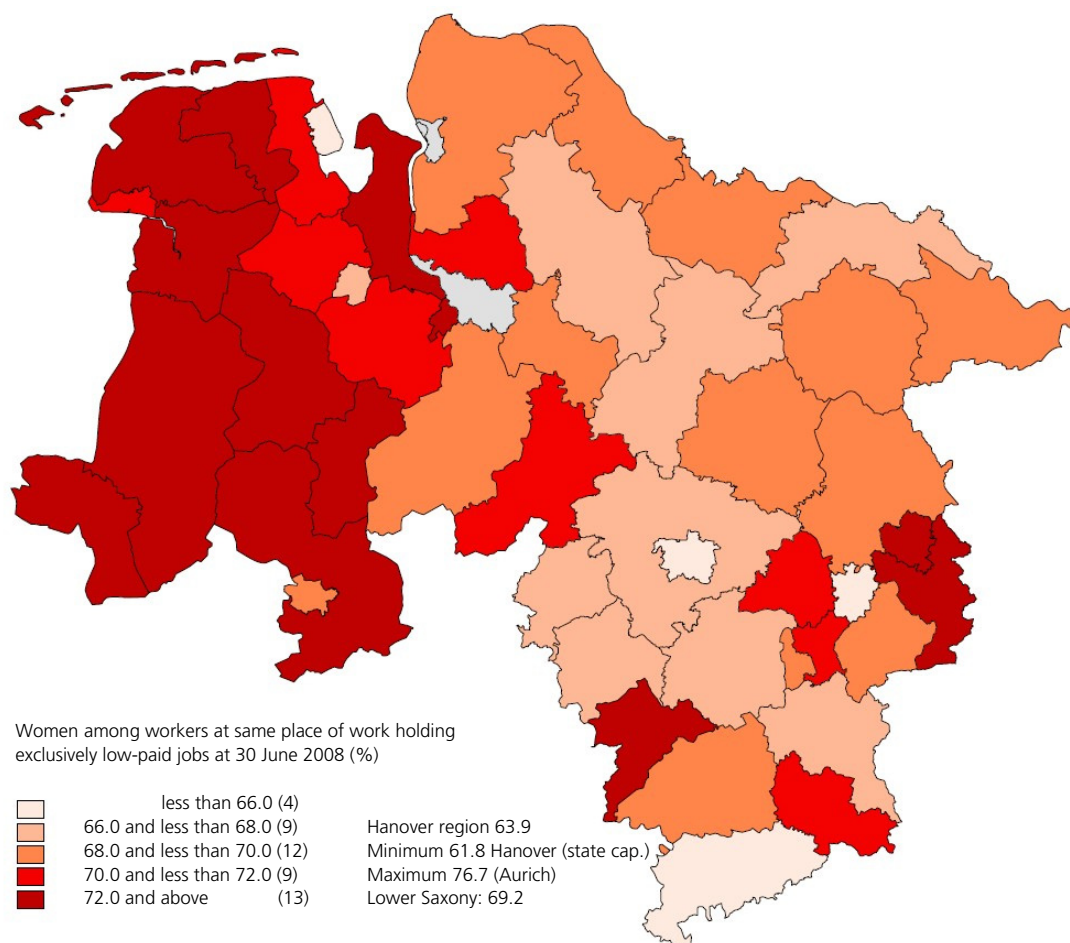
Source: Statistics published by the Federal Employment Agency.

The indicator highlights significant gender-specific differences in marginal employment. It points to:

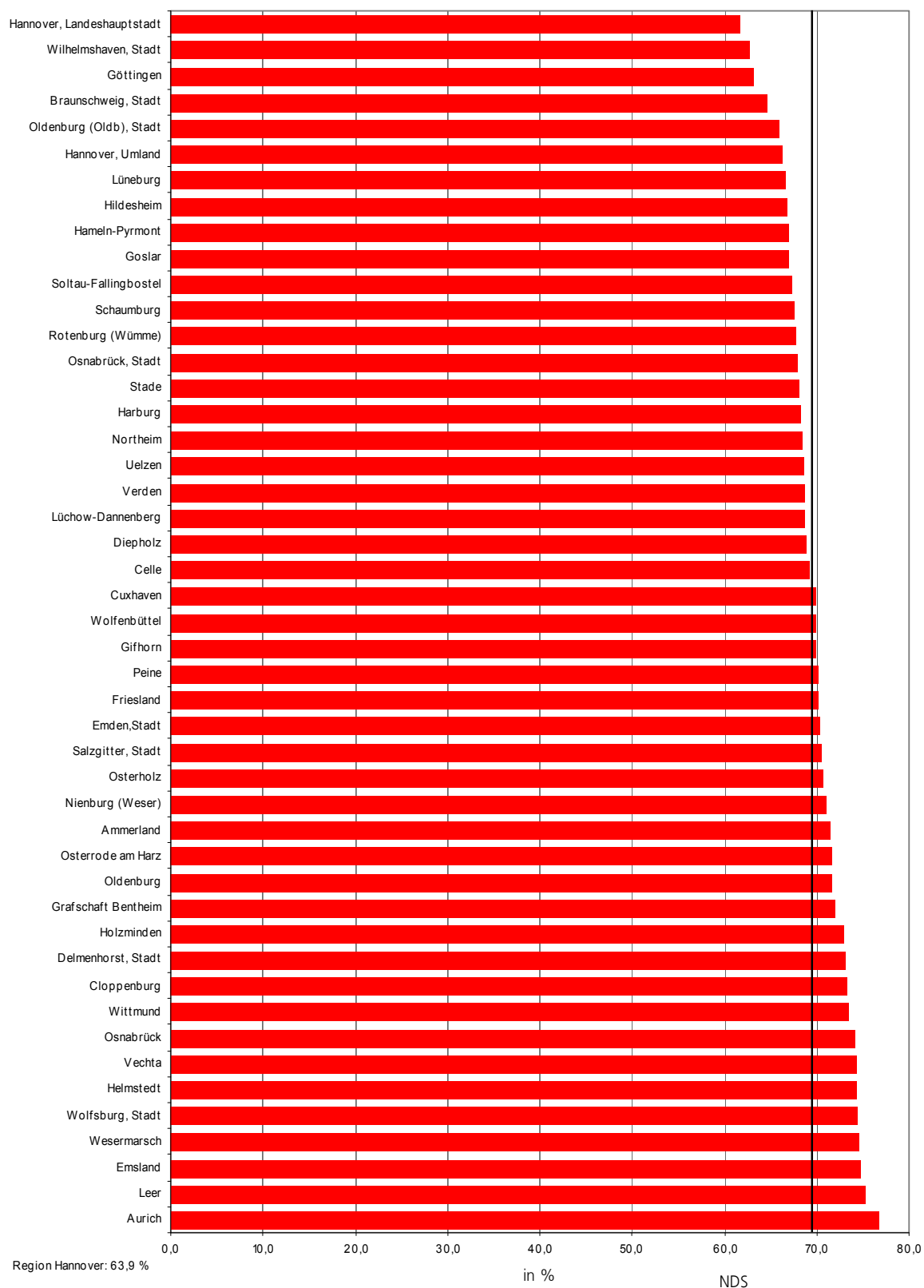
- Marginal employment as typically a women's domain (modified bread-winner model with the wife earning pin-money).
- Women bearing most responsibility for raising children and/or caring for dependent family members.
- Unfavourable employment trends and career opportunities for women, which could also be linked to the minijob form of employment

Of the 512,871 employees in Lower Saxony who worked exclusively in marginal employment 30 June 2008, 69.2 percent were women.

Percentage of women who work exclusively in marginal employment 2008



Frauenanteil der ausschließlich geringfügig entlohnnten Beschäftigten am Arbeitsort am 30.06.2008



3.4 Unemployment among women and men (unemployment rate)

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of unemployed people among civilian employees, segregated by gender.

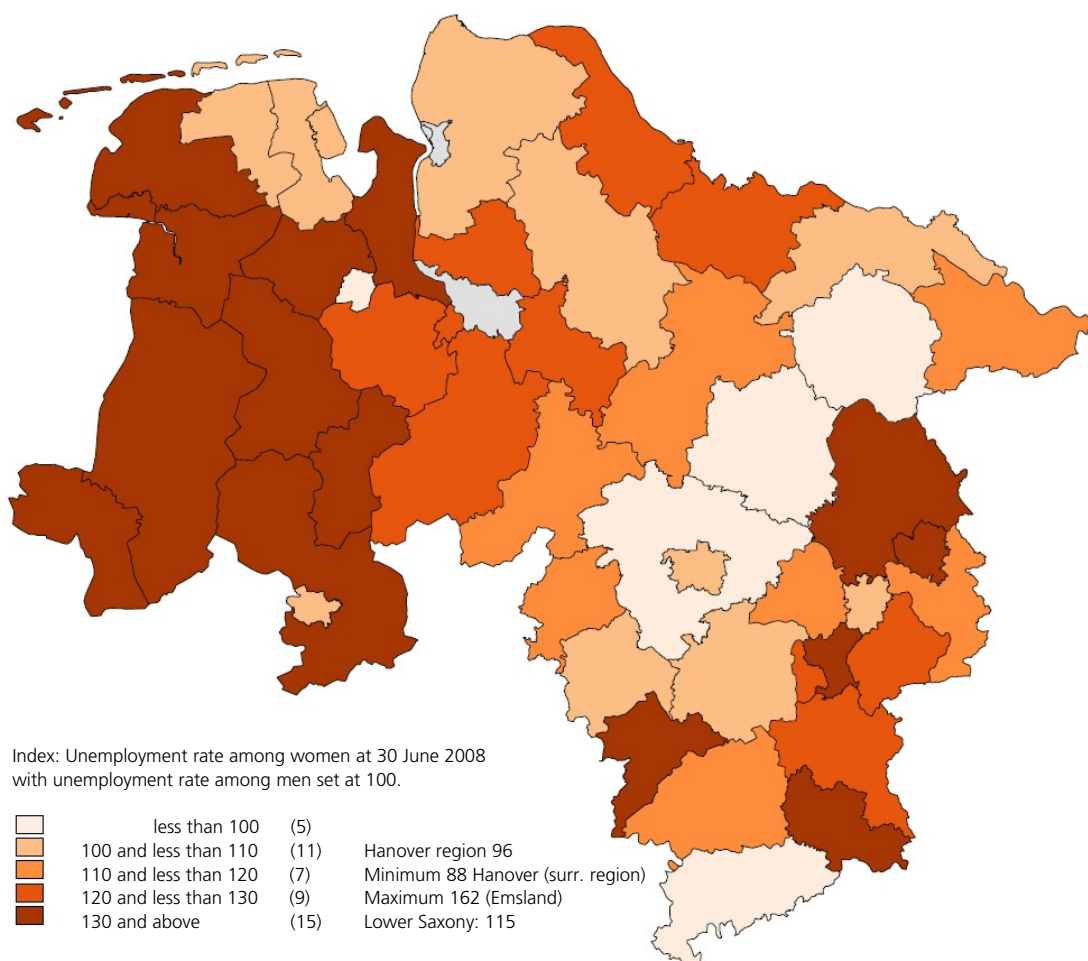
Methodological notes: Unemployed refers to anyone without a job (less than 15 hours a week), seeking work, available for work and registered as unemployed with either a job centre or a provider of basic benefits for job seekers. Civilian employees include unemployed persons, compulsorily insured employees, low-paid workers, and civil servants, but not members of the armed forces. To calculate the figures for civilian employees, statistics from various sources are used (employment statistics, unemployment and labour promotion statistics, personnel statistics and the microcensus). The gender-specific differences cannot be interpreted directly as differences in employment opportunities, because non-working women who want to work are more likely than men to leave the jobs market without registering as unemployed and are thus not included in the unemployment statistics.

Source: Unemployment statistics published by the Federal Employment Agency

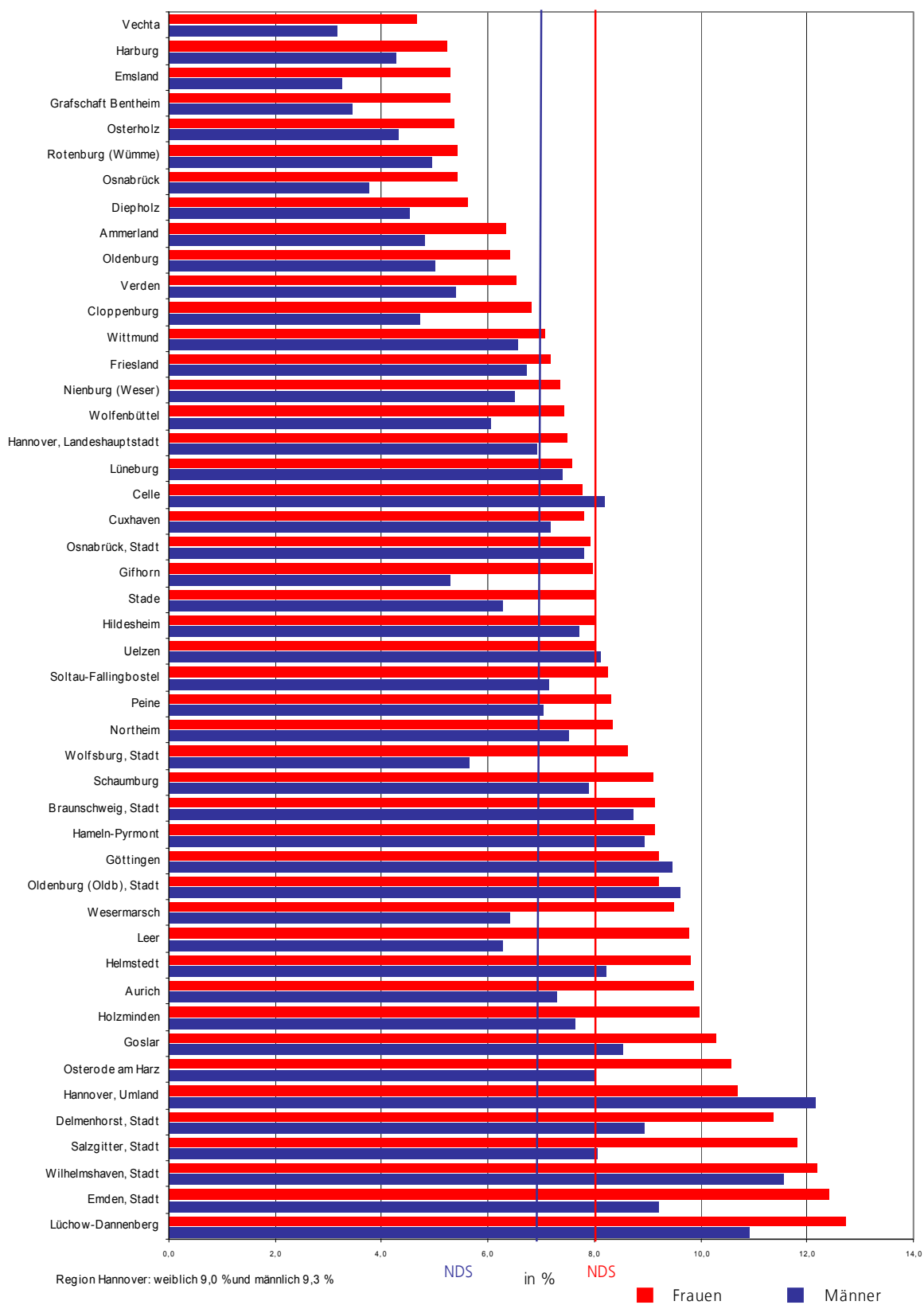
The unemployment figures serve as a key indicator for how the jobs market is assessed. The separate figures for women and men provide references for gender-specific differences in the employment market.

Some 292,678 people in Lower Saxony were unemployed (7.5 percent) on 30 June 2008. Of these 146,024 were women (8.0 percent) and 146,649 were men (6.9 percent).

Unemployment among women and men on 30 June 2008



Arbeitslosenquoten von Männern und Frauen am 30.06.2008



3.5 Long-term unemployment among women and men

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of long-term unemployed among unemployed individuals, segregated by gender.

Methodological notes: Unemployed refers to anyone without a job (less than 15 hours a week), seeking work, available for work and registered as unemployed with either a job centre or a basic benefits for job seekers provider. Long-term unemployed refers to women and men who have been unemployed for longer than 12 months. The gender-specific differences cannot be interpreted directly as differences in employment opportunities, because non-working women who want to work are more likely than men to leave the jobs market without registering as unemployed and are thus not included in the unemployment statistics. The figures do not include long-term unemployed persons who receive support from an authorised municipal agency, thus limiting the possibility of regional comparison.

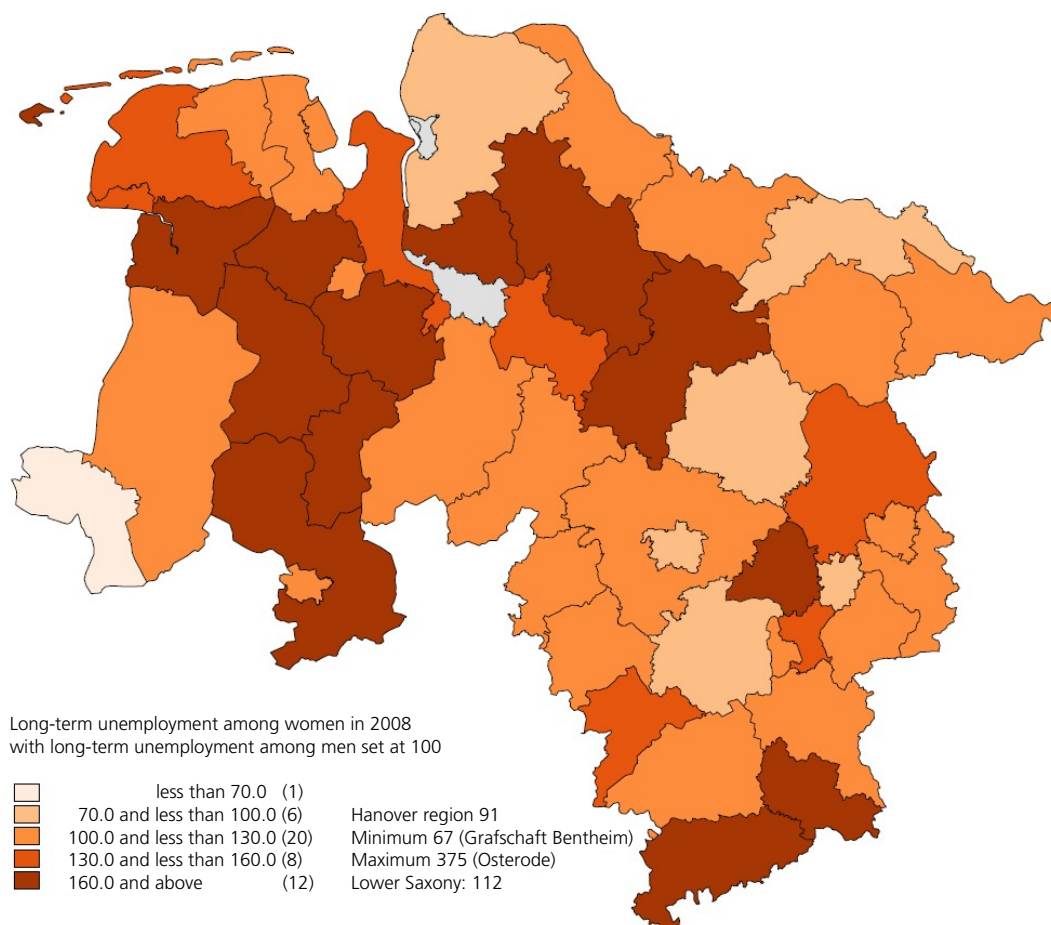
Source: Unemployment statistics published by the Federal Employment Agency

This indicator points to:

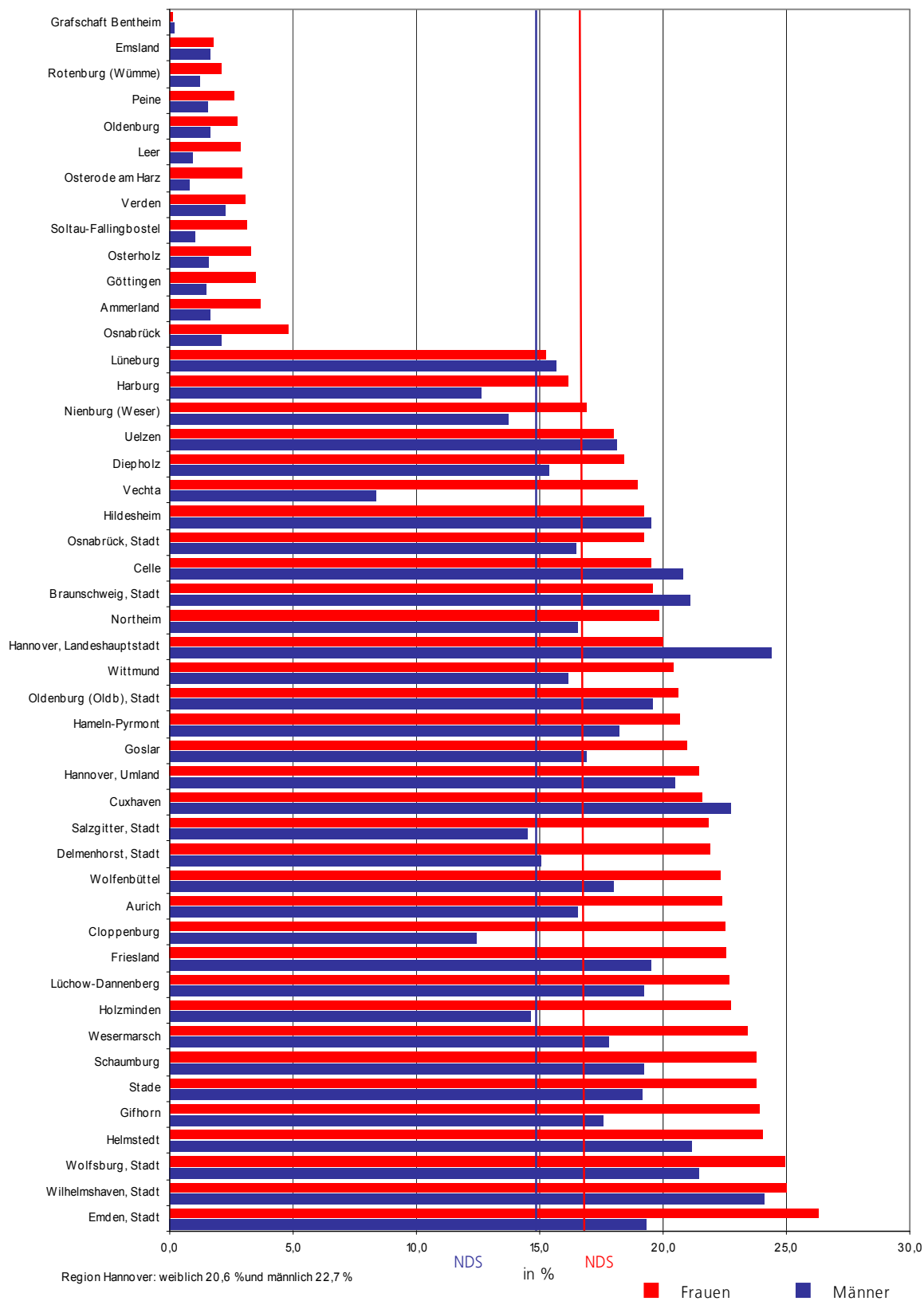
- Gender-specific differences in reintegration into the jobs market following unemployment.
- Potential barriers to reentering the jobs market.
- Varying potential risk of poverty for women and men, particularly of poverty in later life.

Some 92,617 people in Lower Saxony were registered as long-term unemployed (31.3 percent of 295,678 unemployed) on 30 June 2008. Of these 48,883 were women (33.5 percent of 146,024 unemployed women) and 43,734 were men (29.8 percent of 146,649 unemployed men).

Long-term unemployment among women in 2008



Anteil der langzeitarbeitslosen Frauen und Männer am 30.06.2008



3.6 Business start-ups

Indicator description:

Definition: The percentage of women in the overall number of people involved in business start-ups.

Methodological notes: The reliability of this indicator is limited because the business is not always taken up in all cases in which a start-up is reported. Start-up founders in sectors not covered by the German Commercial Code are not included (e.g. liberal professions, primary sector, administering private assets).

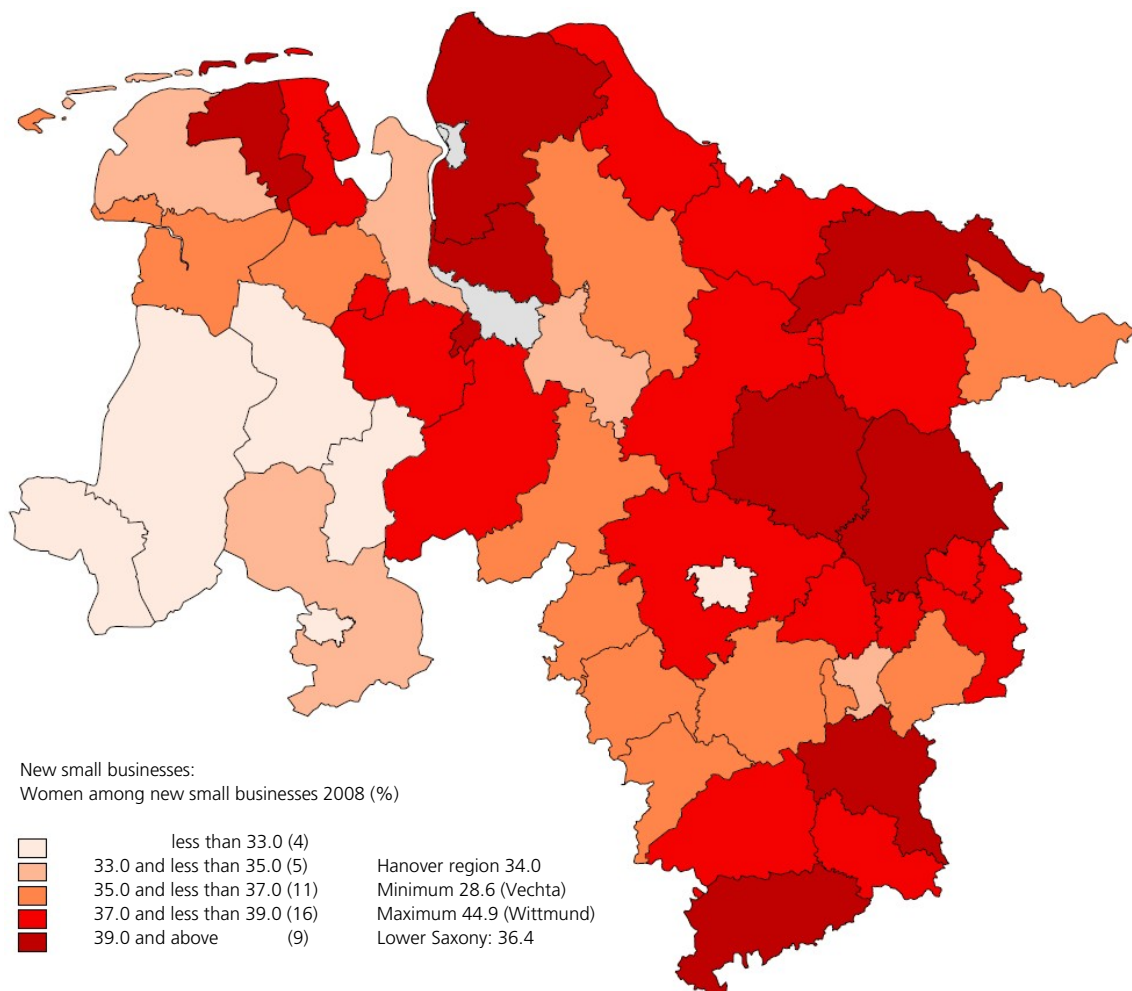
Source: Official commercial statistics 2007.

This indicator shows the number of women in business start-ups. It points to:

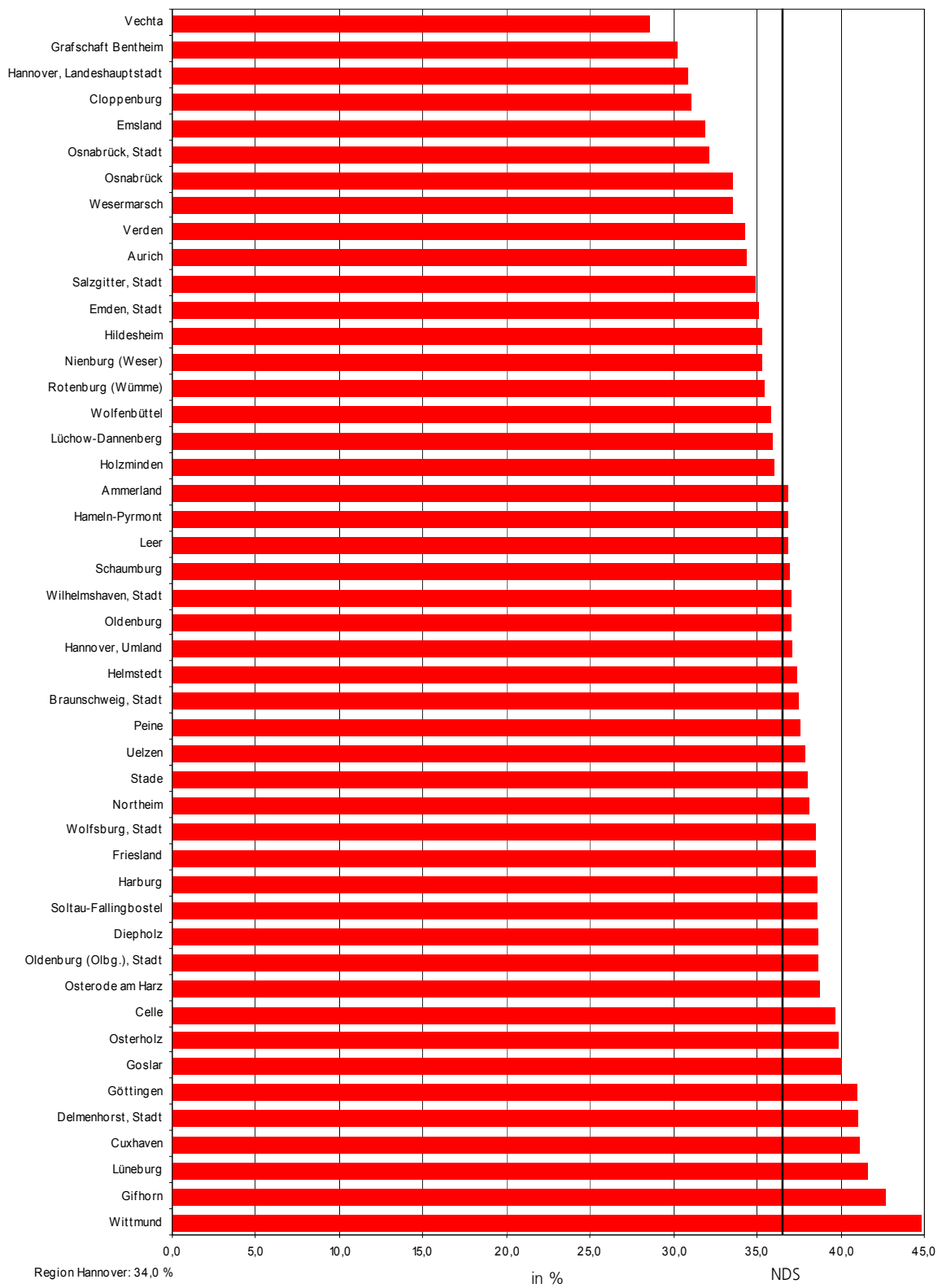
- Women's readiness and confidence in starting up a business
- Target group-specific consultancy services
- Target group-specific need for support.
- Influencing factors in founding a business conditions (e.g. economic situation, unemployment)

Of the 46,910 individuals who registered a business in Lower Saxony, 36.4 percent were women.

New Small Businesses: Women-Owned Start-ups – Percentage of women among new small businesses 2008



Frauenanteil an Neugründungen von Einzelunternehmen 2008



3.7 Parental benefit recipients

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of men among recipients of parental benefit payments ending in 2008.

Methodological notes: The figures on parental benefit receipts in 2008 contain fewer cases of parents who received parental benefit consecutively (13 to 14 months) than in the following years. This is because benefit receipt over such long periods, in which the mother was the recipient in the first twelve months of the child's life, and then the father received benefit for one or two additional months, was only stopped in February or March 2008 with the introduction of parental benefit for births from 1 January 2007. Parental benefit could not be applied for for children born at the end of 2006. This restriction no longer applied in the years that followed.

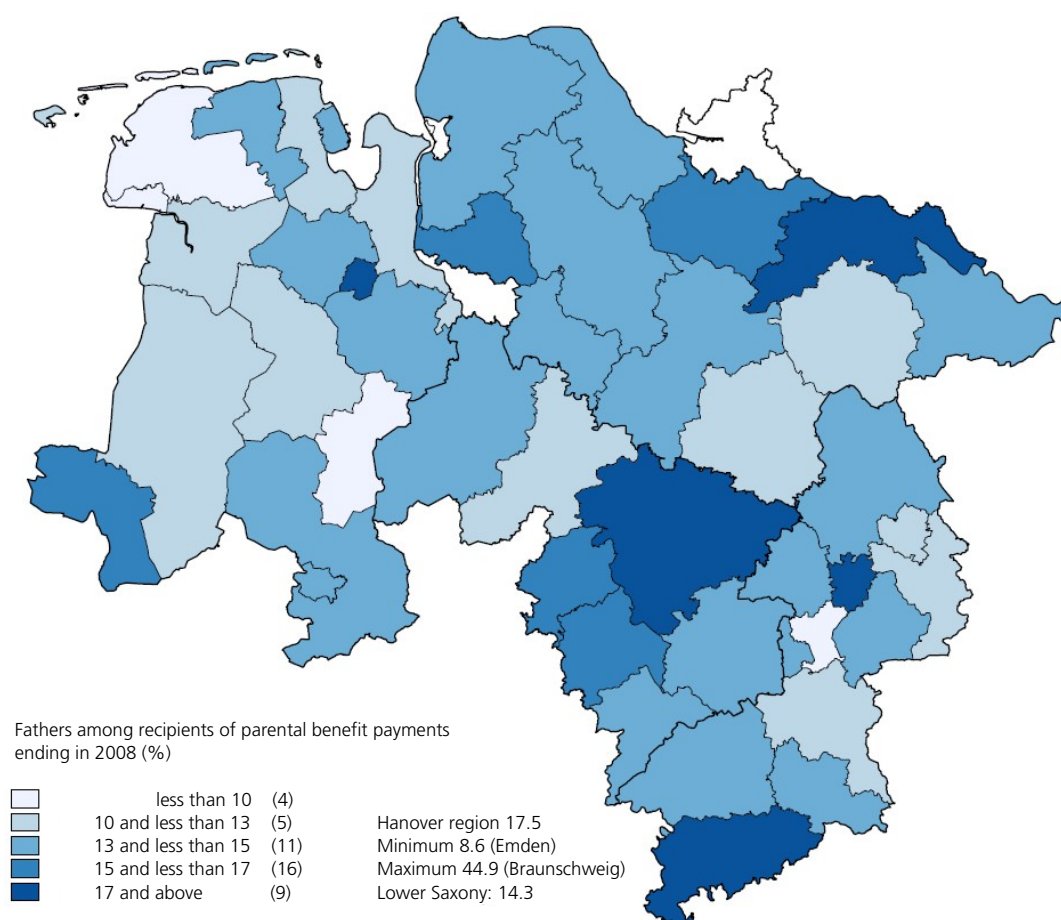
Source: Federal statistics on parental benefit 2007.

This indicator shows the involvement of fathers in parental leave and points to:

- The current situation and trends in young fathers' attitudes to employment and family.
- The break down of role models/gender-specific stereotypes.
- Social and business acceptance of modern fathers.

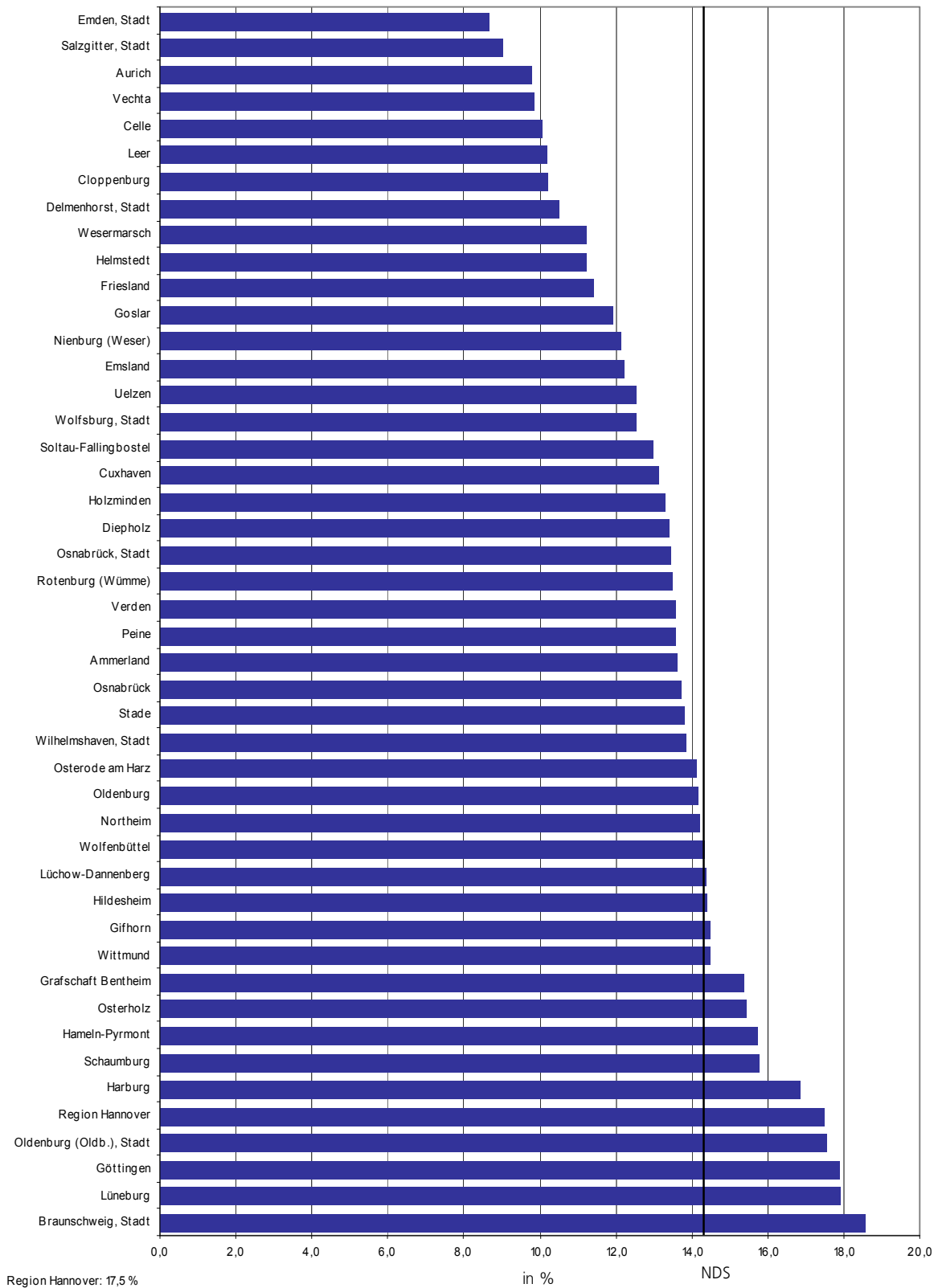
Of the 67,589 parental benefit recipients in Lower Saxony who received their final payment in 2008, 14.3 percent were fathers..

Percentage of fathers receiving parental benefit in 2008



The white areas represent Hamburg, Bremen and Bremerhaven.

Beendete Elterngeld-Leistungsbezüge von Vätern 2008



3.8 Childcare

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of children under three in March 2008 who were cared for in childcare institutions (daycare centres or with childminders, no double counting) among all children in this age group (on 31 December 2007).

Methodological notes: Childcare institutions and services as defined by this indicator include creches (for children under three), mixed-age nursery schools and daycare with childminders. The figures cover the number of children cared for by childminders and who do not visit a daycare centre in addition, and children who attend daycare centres.

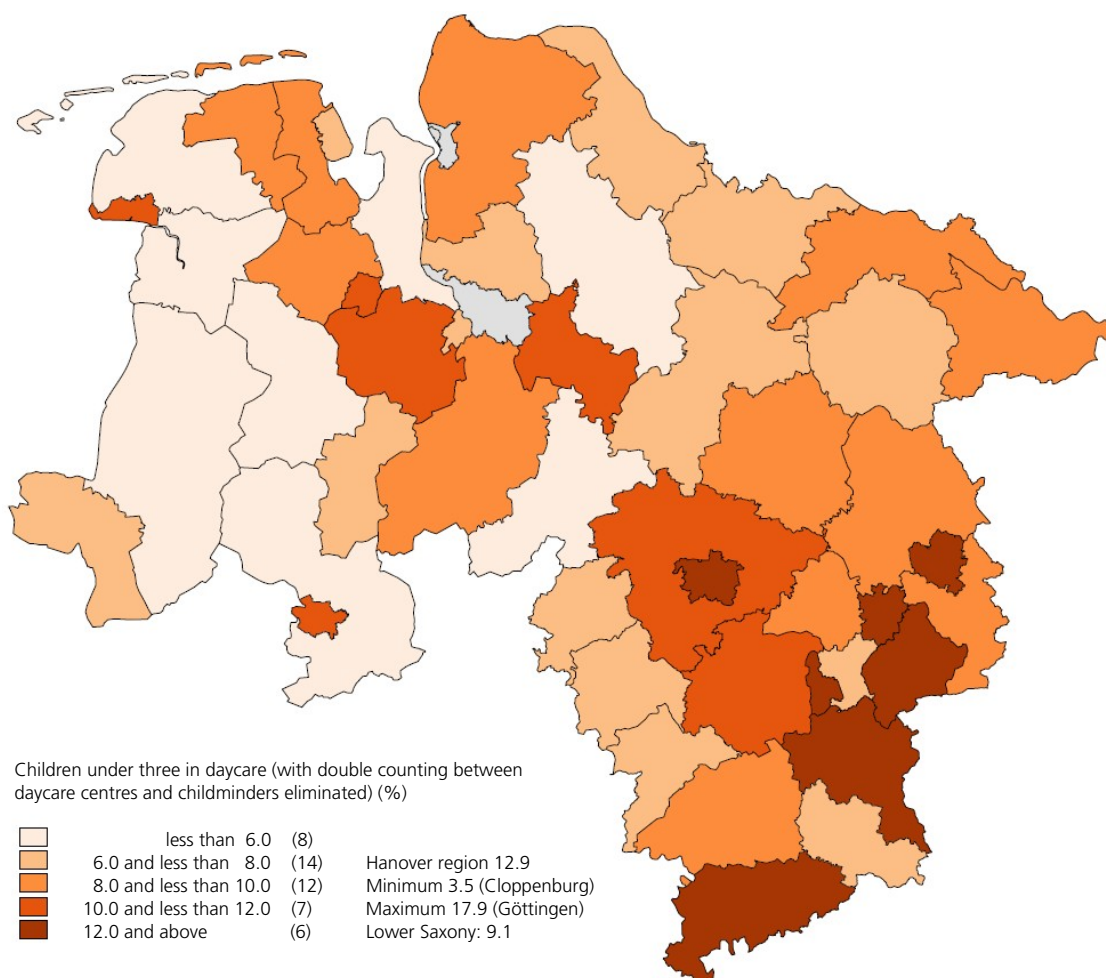
Source: Statistics on children and staff in daycare centres, and children and carers in publicly funded childminding services in 2008, and population figures for 2007.

This indicator points to:

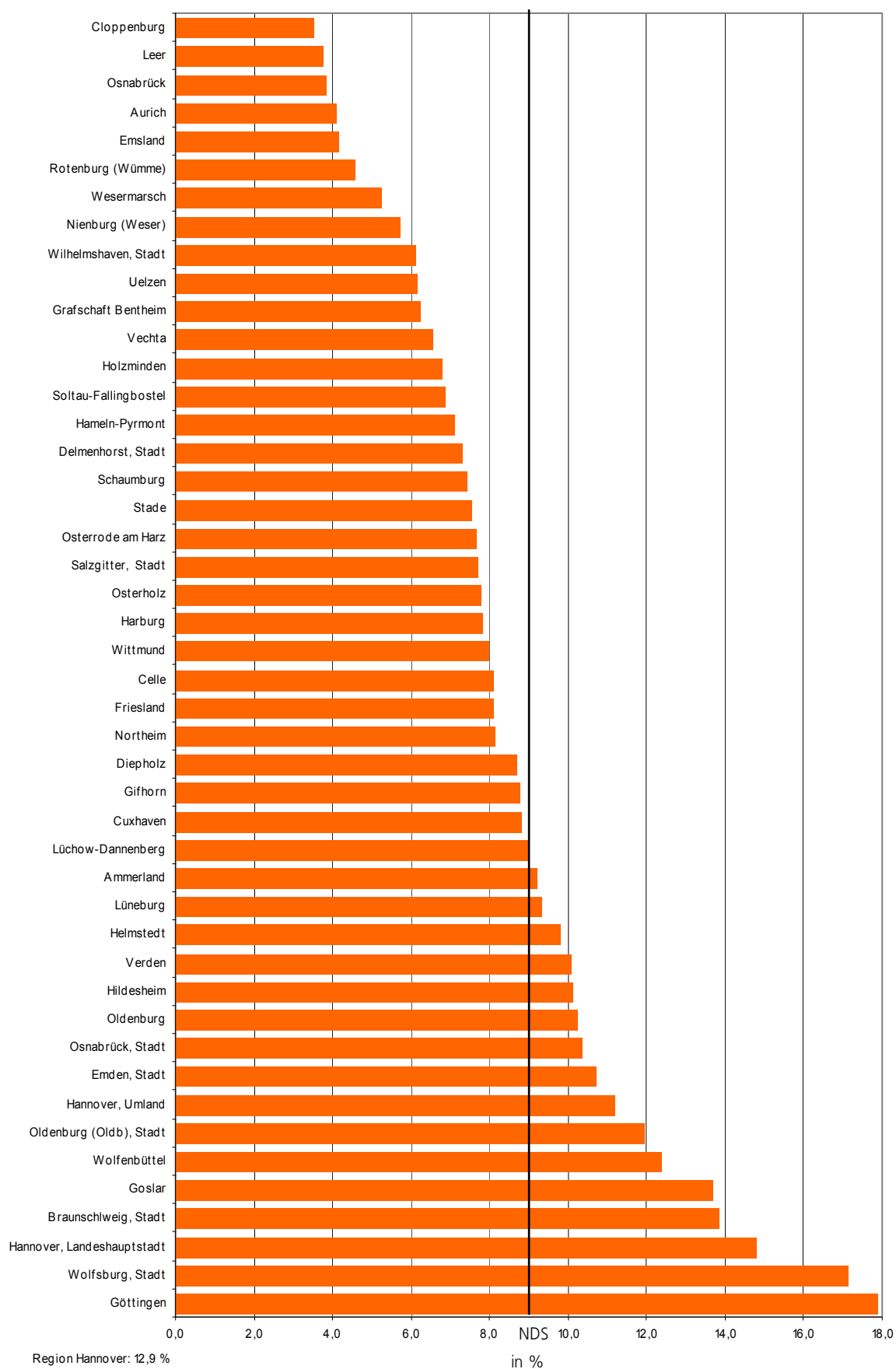
- The current situation and trends which aid reconciliation of work and family life
- The actual freedom to choose between care within the family and childcare in creches, mixed-age nursery groups or daycare.

Of the 198,770 children in Lower Saxony in March 2008, a total of 8,085 (9.1 percent) were cared for in day centres.

Children under three in daycare in 2008



Betreuungsquote von Kindern unter 3 Jahren in Kindertagesbetreuung 2008



IV. Personal Circumstances

As indicators, the living conditions and everyday circumstances of people in old age and their life expectancy rate are used. Significant gender-specific differences are evident for both indicators.

Most elderly women live alone. This is mainly due to the high life expectancy rates for women and the social norm that the male partner in a couple is older than the female. As a result, women are far more reliant on professional help when they need care.

Life expectancy is one of the few sets of statistics which have long been segregated by gender. The debate on the causes has been in progress equally as long. On the one hand, the reasons for male excess mortality are put down to biological factors (genetic and hormonal differences), while on the other behavioural and environmental influences are cited. In a study, *Mortalitätsdifferenzen der Geschlechter*, also known as the *Kosterstudie*, (The Gender Mortality Gap – the cloister study) by Marc Luy (see www.klosterstudie.de), it was shown that the biological factors are the cause of a marginal survival advantage for women of about a year's more life expectancy in young adult age. Life expectancy is thus largely driven by factors that can be influenced, such as the social and economic situation, educational level and personal lifestyle.

4.1 Percentage of men aged over 65 in society

Indicator description:

Definition: Percentage of men of pensionable age in society (age 65 and over)

Methodological notes: The figures reflect men aged 65 and over on 31 December 2008. Women have around five years' higher life expectancy than men. This is evident, among other things, in that the percentage of women over 65 in society nearly always exceeds 50 percent.

Source: Statistics on population growth.

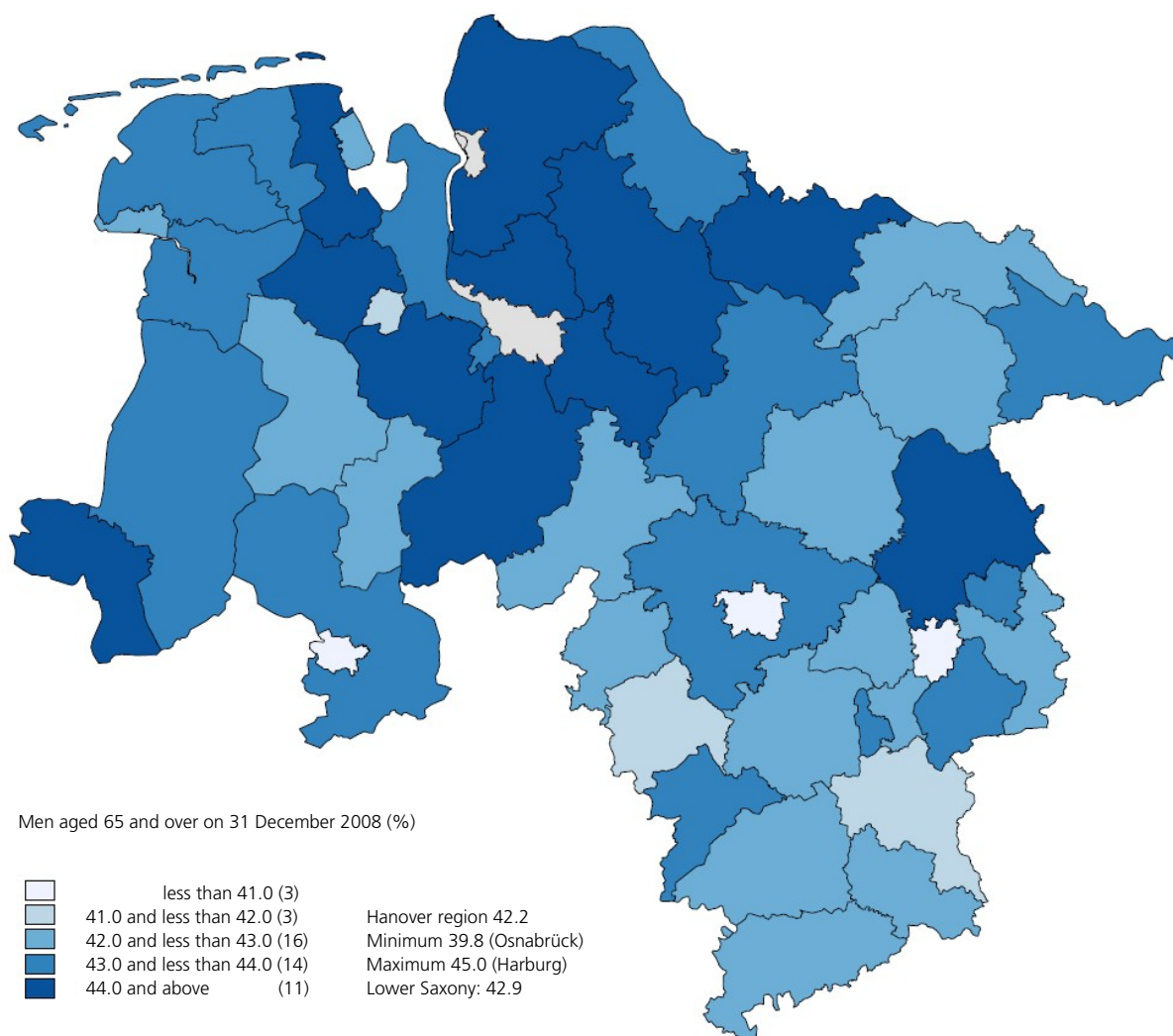
The indicator points to regional gender-specific differences:

- The influence of behavioural and environmental factors
- Quality of life and health in old age

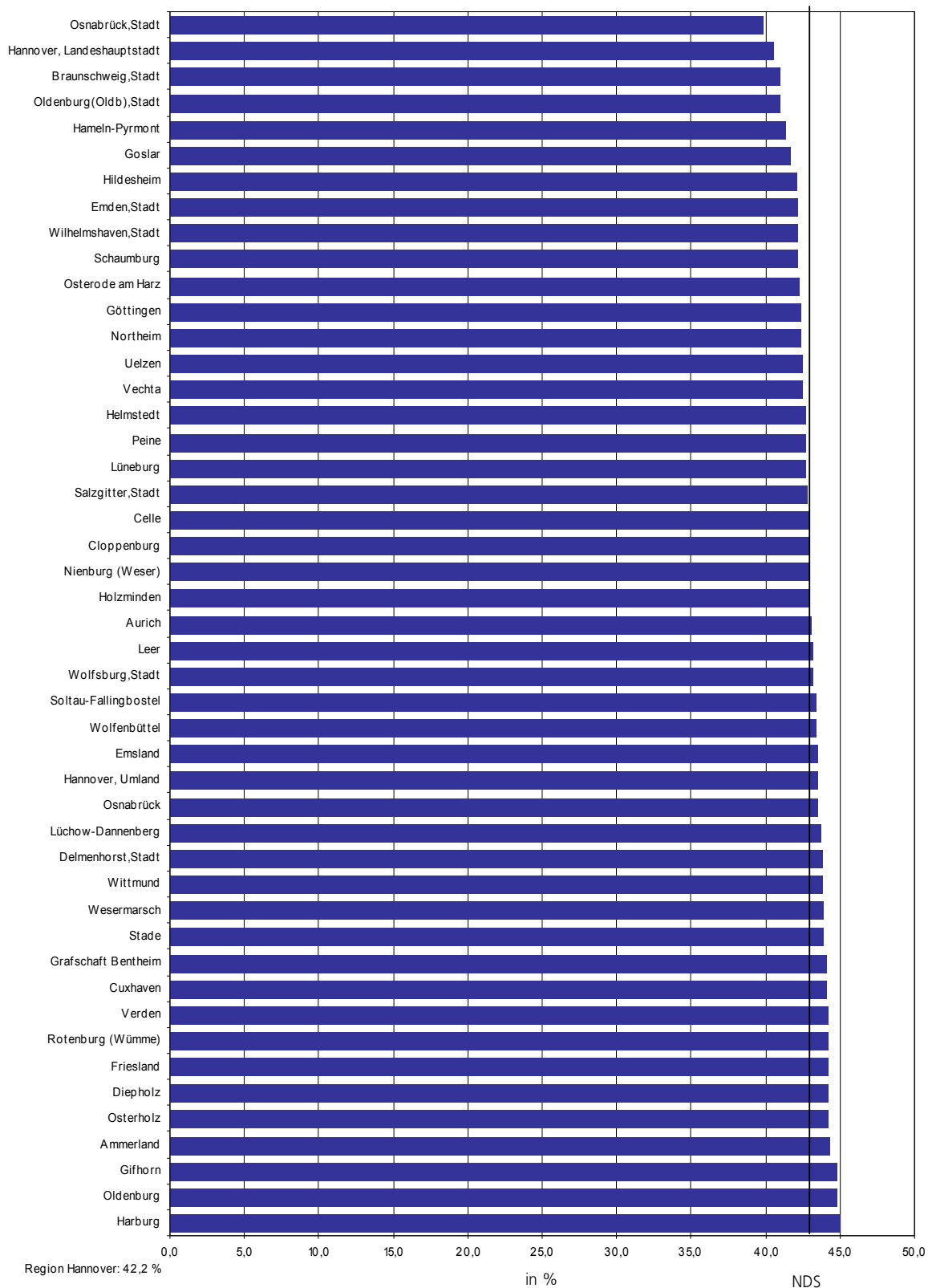
These are influenced by social and financial circumstances, healthcare provision and environmental factors. The indicator thus highlights these influencing factors.

Of the 1,637,817 individuals in Lower Saxony over the age of 65, 42.9 percent were male.

Percentage of men aged 65 and over on 31 December 2008



Männeranteil an der Bevölkerung über 65 Jahre am 31.12.2008



4.2 Mortality

Indicator description:

Definition: Indirect standardised mortality index 2003 – 2007 (up to age 80)

Methodological notes: Women's average life expectancy is a good five years more than that of men. Calculating the average life expectancy for districts and municipalities is extremely difficult. As a result, an age-standardised mortality index is used. The mortality index based on indirect age standardisation provides the percentage deviation between mortality risks within a specific population group and a comparison population. Normally, mortality indices are standardised according to age and gender, with regional deviations calculated against the regional average. This enables illustration of regional differences in mortality risks. (For a detailed methodology description: Statistische Monatshefte Niedersachsen 7/2009, pp. 322-334: If the value for Lower Saxony is 1, the regional values differ between a maximum of 1.154 (Lüchow-Dannenberg district) and a minimum of 0.856 (Harburg district). Mortality risk tends to be lower in relatively well-off regions with lower unemployment than in less well-off regions with high unemployment. In this particular case, mortality risks of women and men are compared on the assumption that there are no gender-specific differences in mortality expectations in a given region. The map and diagram show the percentage by which the mortality risk among the under 80s differs between the genders from region to region. In general, men have a higher risk of mortality than women.

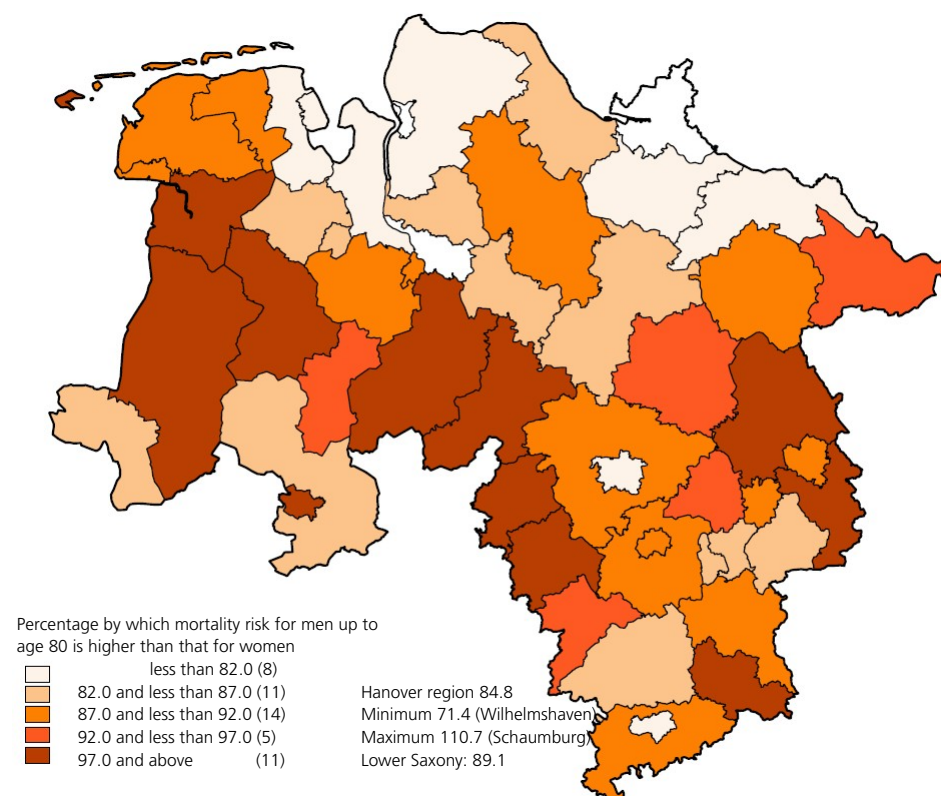
Data sources: Population growth

The indicator points to:

- Gender-specific differences in quality of life
- Gender-specific differences in health status

These are influenced by social and financial circumstances, healthcare provision, environmental factors, and individual behaviour.

Mortality risks among the under 80s 2003 – 2007



Mortalitätsrisiken der unter 80jährigen 2003 bis 2007 - regionale Unterschiede zwischen Frauen und Männern

