

Analysis of Domestic Short Time Migration Flows in Sweden

Anders Lundgren - Umeå University,

From a geographical point of view tourism is basically about short time migration in a spatial system linking together a place of origin and a destination, and about the impacts on change in these destinations induced by this migration. Hence tourism is a matter of mobility within the population. Forecasting this short time migration or this tourism flow, however, requires reliable data. In the Swedish context the available data source, the Swedish Tourist Database (TDB - Åre marknadsfakta AB), contains individual attributes as age, income and location as well as individual choices of tourist activities and destinations. Hence, the database enables the analysis of socio-economic and geographical patterns in relation to recreational activities at an individual level.

In this paper it is demonstrated how the TDB-data can be integrated into SVERIGE, a geographical micro-simulation model of the entire Swedish population. It is argued that this modelling on the micro-level accounts for changes in population structure and geography to a far greater extent than conventional models because of its focus on individual behaviour in relation to individual socio-economic characteristics. Thus, changes in the population and its spatial distribution are mirrored directly in the resulting travel patterns. Furthermore the TDB-data can be used to pinpoint regions with high attraction for certain activities.

This paper describes equations and calculations for SVERIGE's tourism module and presents examples of model runs using different scenarios with respect to population changes and spatial distribution. The module is, however, not implemented in SVERIGE yet and model runs are thus done in SPSS.