



Distance work: What will be the regional effects?

ESPOON Peer Learning Workshop on
Housing and Multi-locality

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An international research centre for regional development and planning established by the Nordic Council of Ministers.



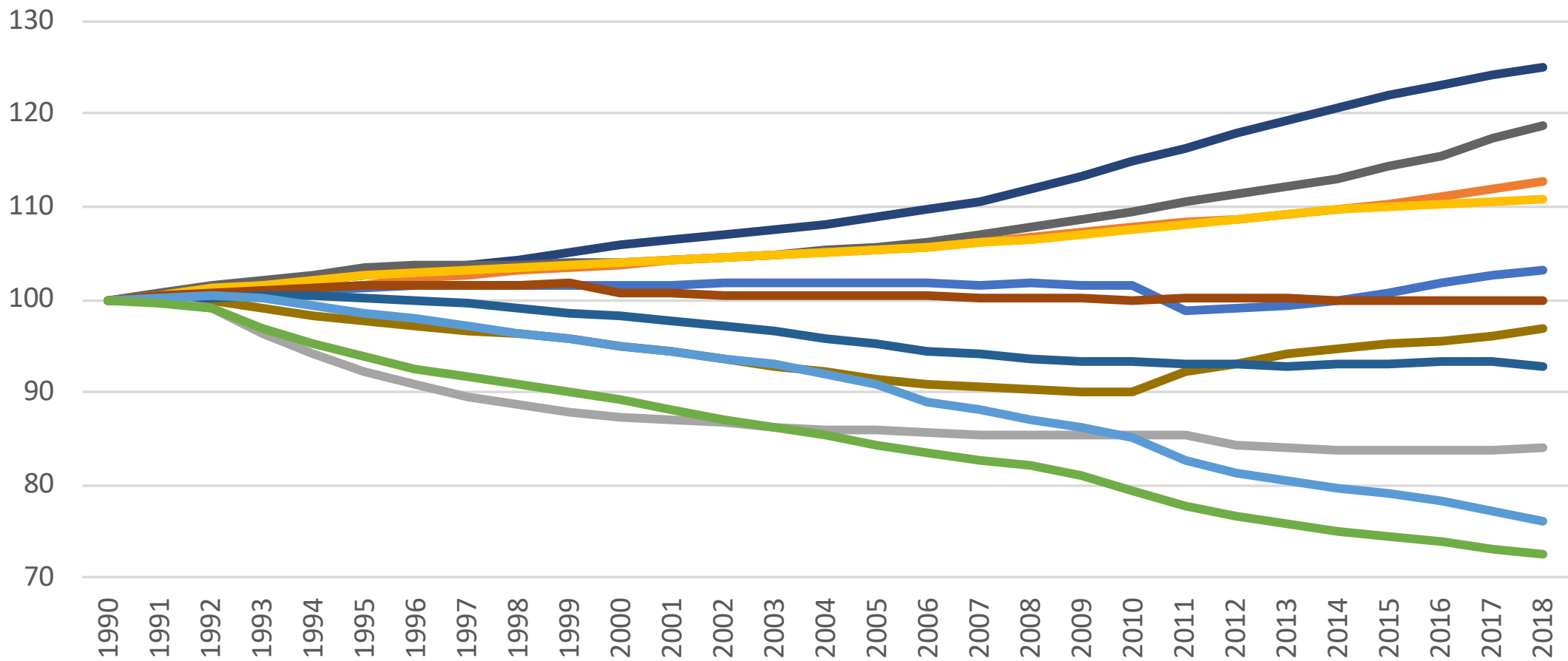
Distance work: What will be the regional effects?

- Finnish population trends in a Nordic context
- Implications of the pandemic for
 - Mobility
 - Migration
 - Multilocality
- Implications for policy and planning

Finnish population trends in a Nordic context

20211216

Population change in the BSR 1990-2018, index: 1990 = 100

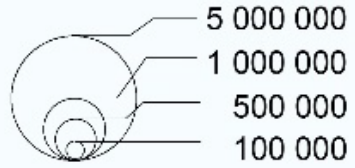


Finland

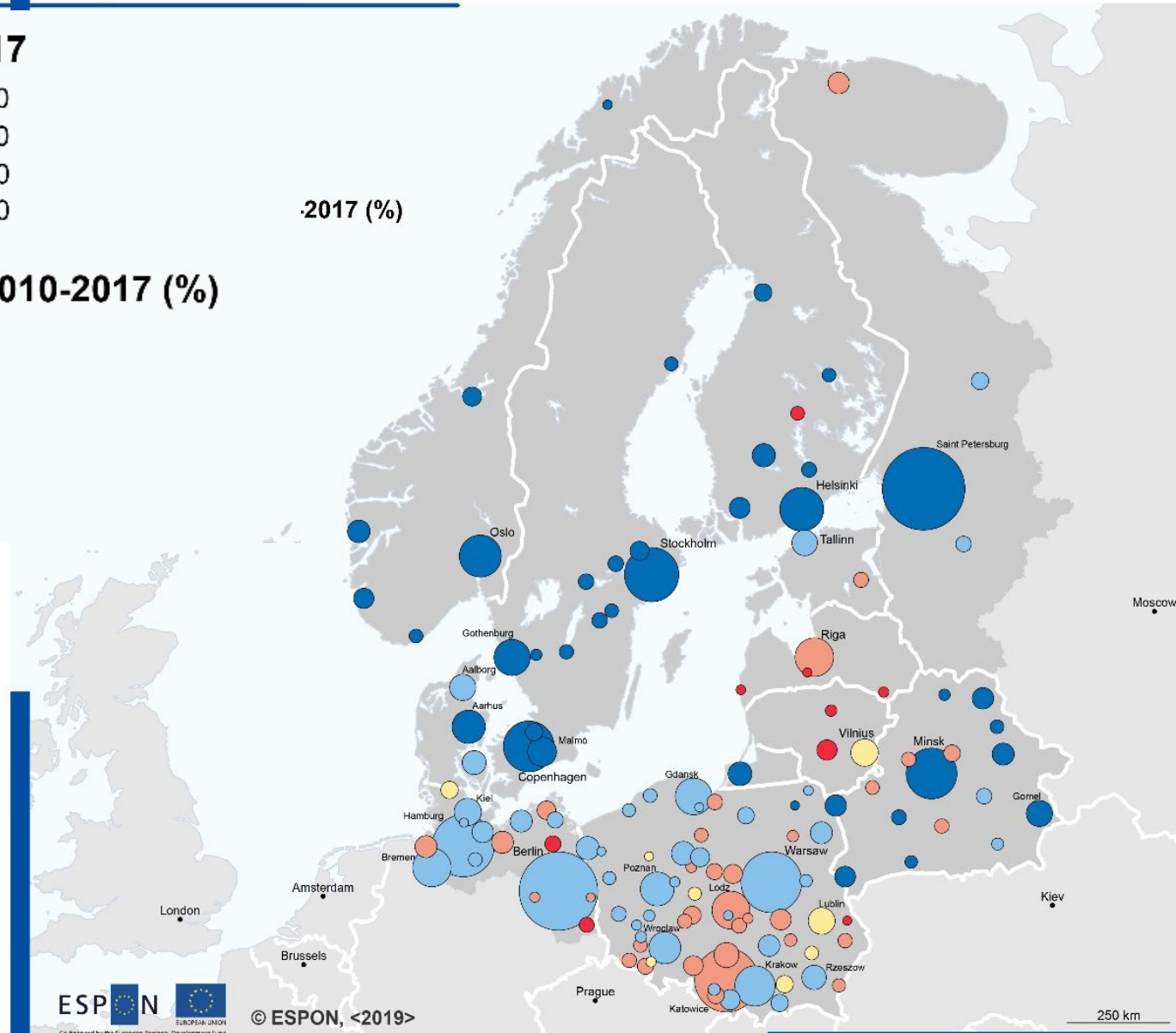
NO SE DK FI DE PL RU BY EE LT LV

Population size in Functional Urban Areas

Population in 2017



Annual change 2010-2017 (%)

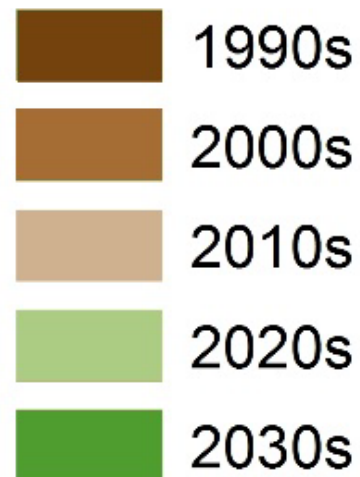


Population size 1990s – 2030s

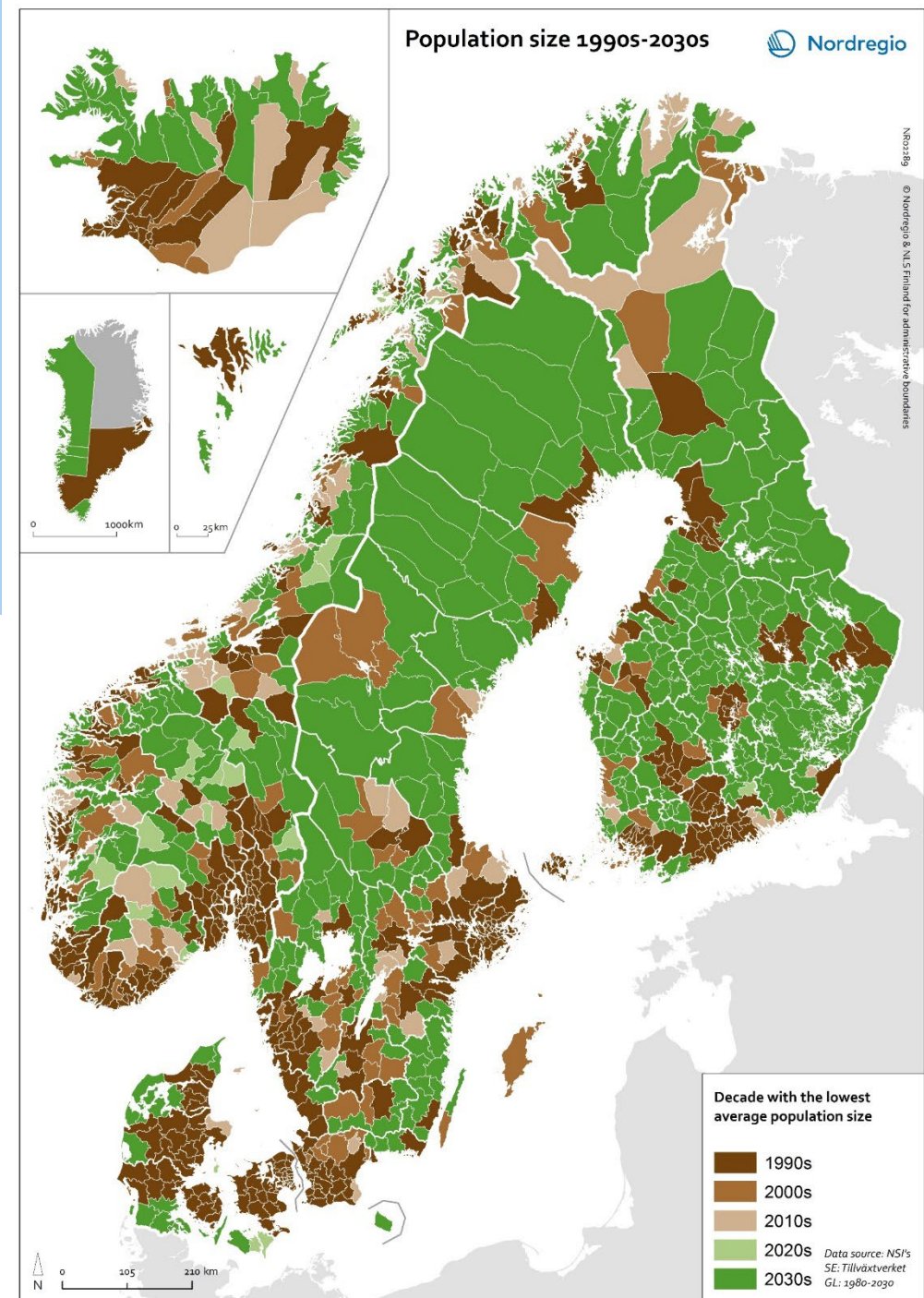
Brown = growing
municipalities

Green = shrinking
municipalities

Decade with the lowest
average population size



Data source: NSI's
SE: Tillväxtverket
GL: 1980-2030



NordMap

Old age dependency

Time series

2000



Information

Old age dependency

DEMOGRAPHY

Year:

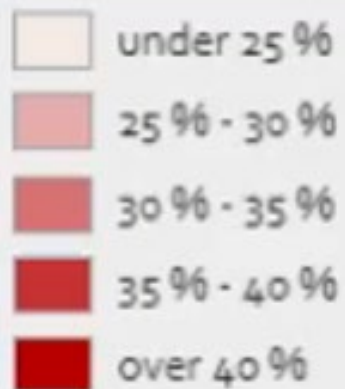
2000

Administrative units:

Municipalities

DISPLAY

Population aged 65 and more as a share of the population aged 15-64 years. Municipal and regional data are



Analytics

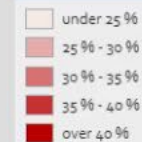
NAME	OLD AGE DEPENDENCY (%)
Aabenraa	29
Aalborg	32
Aaleksöki	23
Aarhus	32
Åre	40
Årford	32
Agdenes	34
Årtan	29
Aksa	26
Akraheppur	34

Infographics

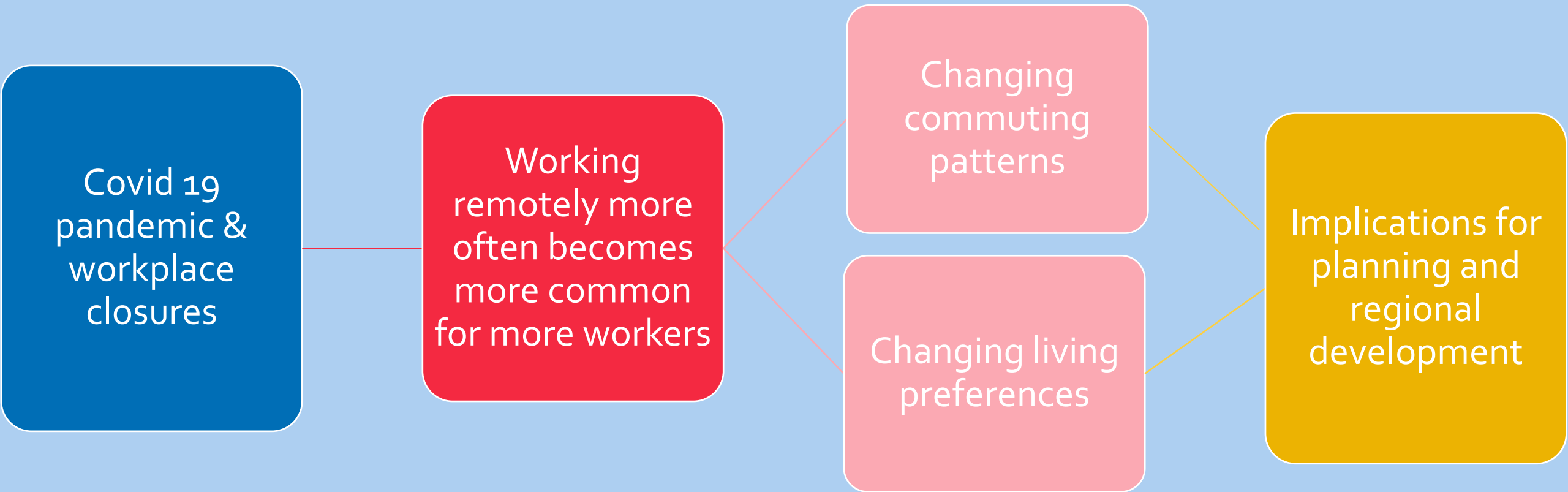
Distribution of municipalities according to the categories of Old age dependency



Old age dependency



Implications of the pandemic



Basic narrative of the link between distance work and regional development

- **Mobility:** Physical movement, generally to pursue shorter term goals, most often on a daily basis.
- **Migration:** Long-term, stable movements involving residential relocation. May or may not include movement across administrative boundaries.
- **Multilocality:** The practice of carrying out active everyday life in multiple places. This generally implies *access to*, but not necessarily *ownership of*, more than one residence.

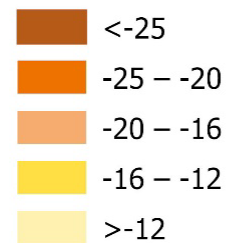
Mobility:

Physical movement, generally to pursue shorter term goals, most often on a daily basis.

Work from home after restrictions were lifted

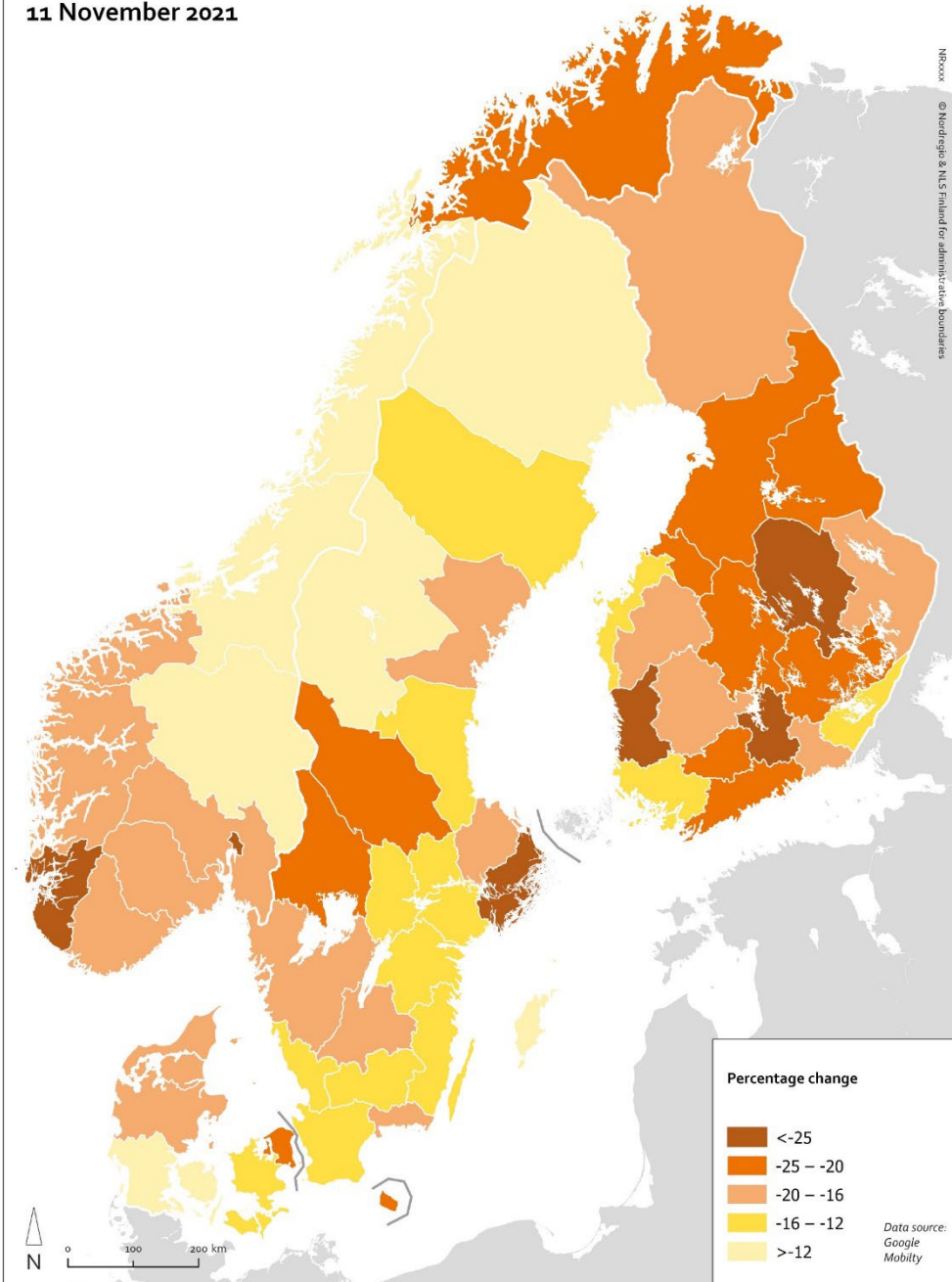
- Google mobility data indicates a decrease in number of travels to work compared to pre-pandemic baseline even when there were no restrictions/recommendations in place
- **20%** less travels to work (on average) compared to median for jan-feb 2020
- The biggest decrease in mobility were in and around the bigger cities

Percentage change



Data source:
Google
Mobility

Change in work travels
Jan-Feb 2020 compared to
11 November 2021

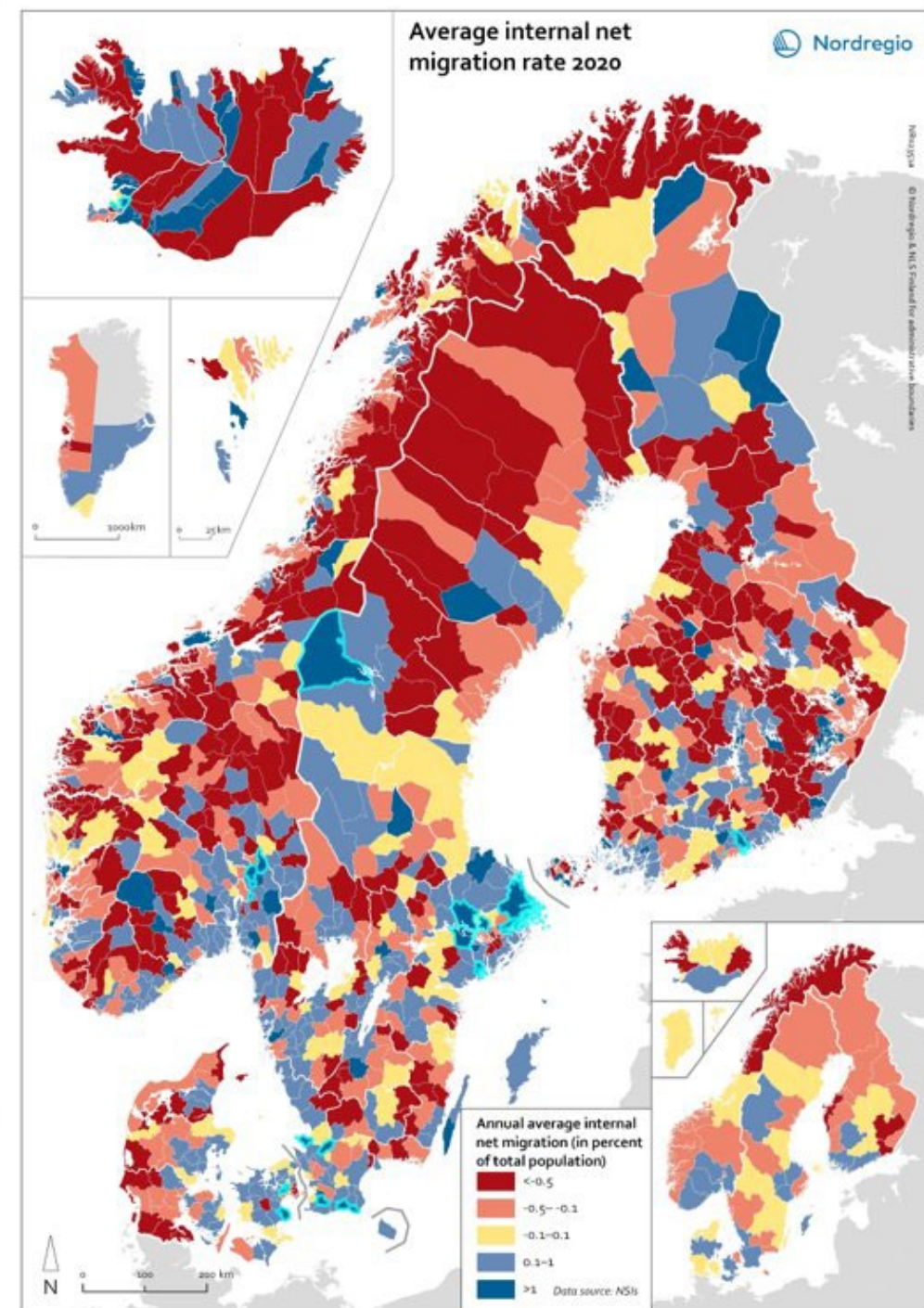
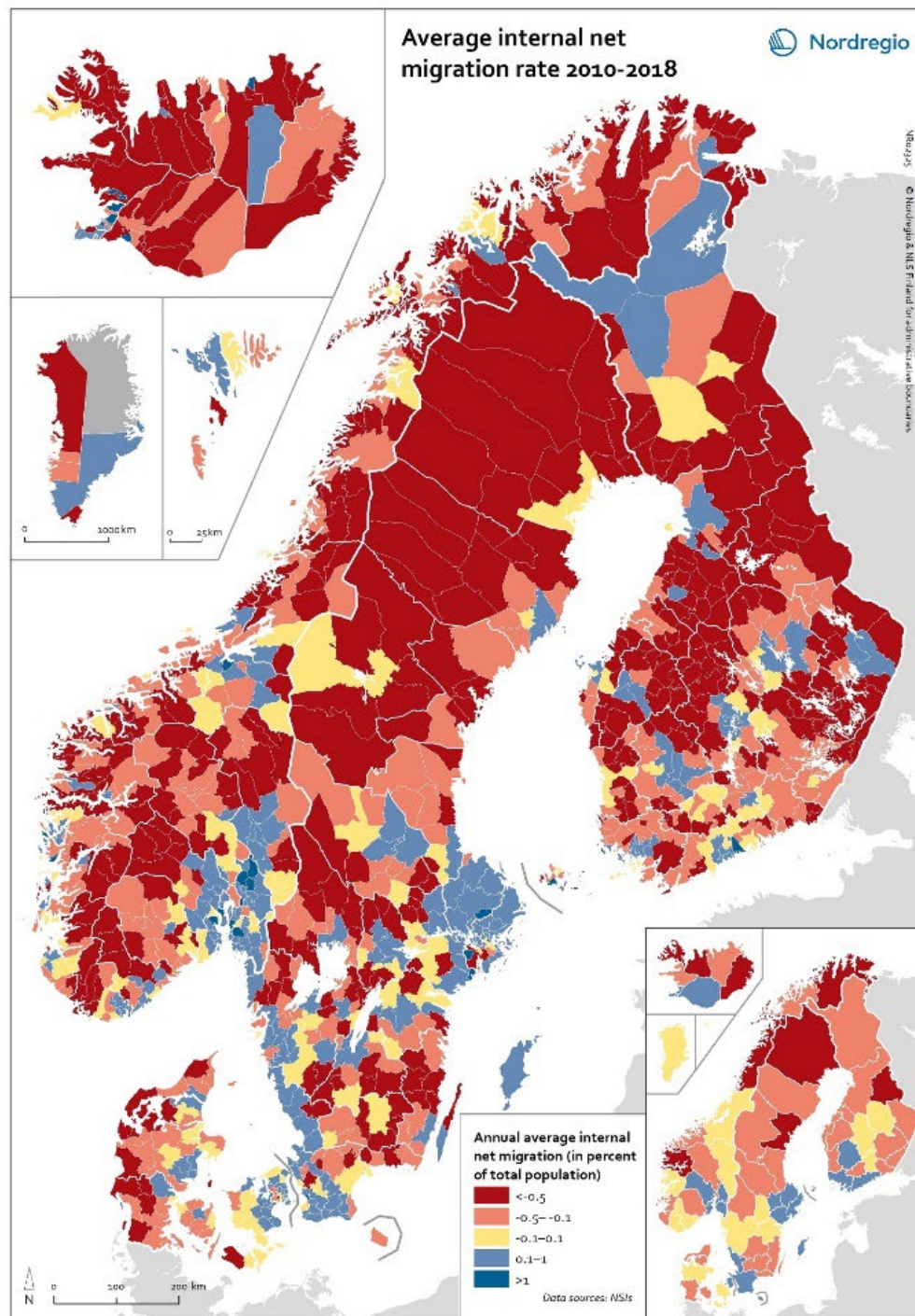


Migration:

Long-term, stable movements involving residential relocation. May or may not include movement across administrative boundaries.

Changing

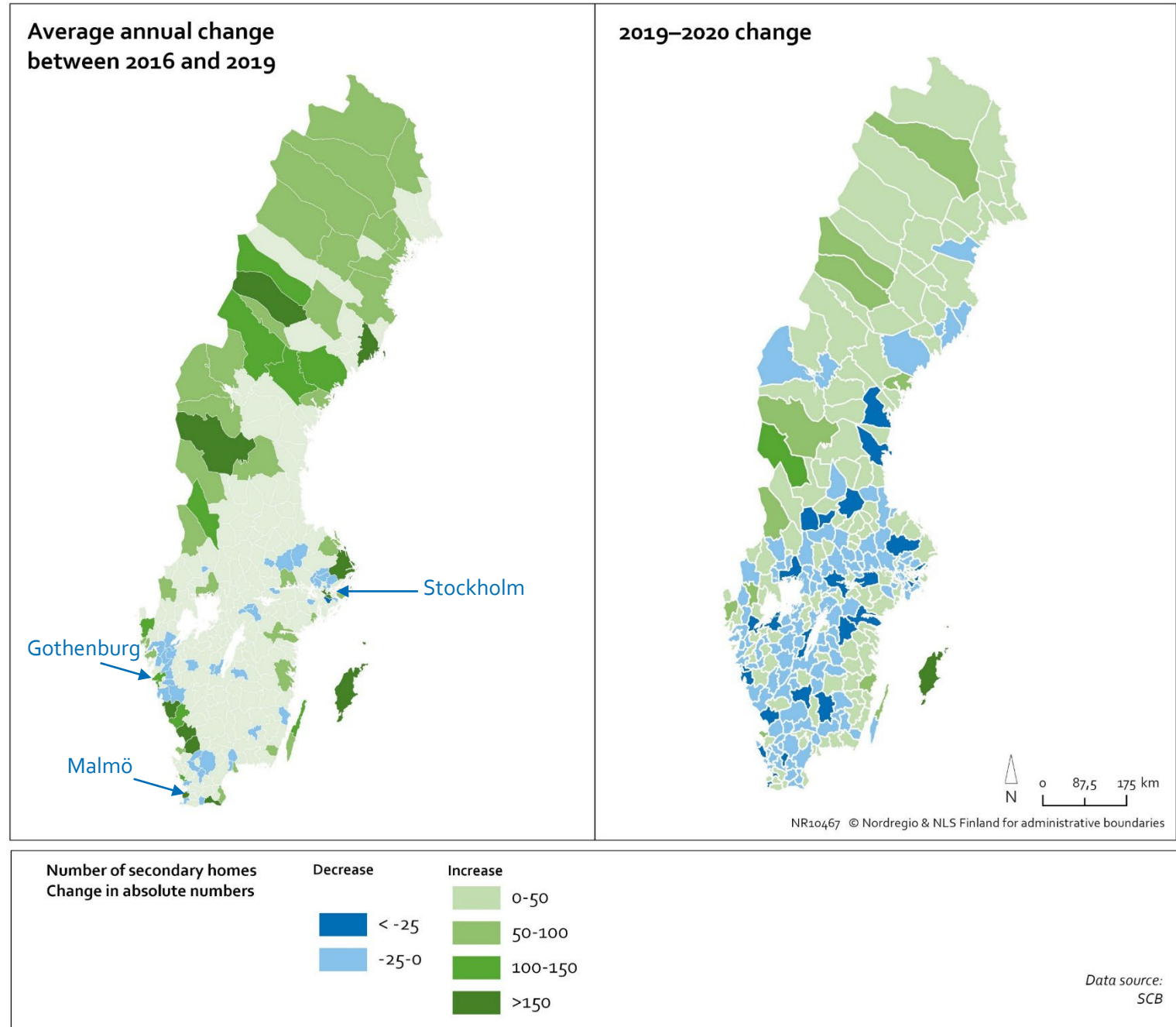
- Signs of n
- All Nordic migration
- In-migrati cities in al
- Highest in the outski the bigger locations.



Change in number of secondary Homes

From Summer house to permanent dwelling?

- During the pandemic the prices for secondary homes have increased faster than for permanent dwellings: **20%** increase for **secondary homes**, compared to **14%** for **detached houses** and **7%** for **apartments (bostadsrätt)**
- Biggest decrease around medium-sized cities such as **Eskilstuna, Karlstad, Falun, Halmstad**
- Only a factor of the pandemic or long-lasting trend?



Multilocality:

The practice of carrying out active everyday life in multiple places. This generally implies *access to*, but not necessarily *ownership of*, more than one residence.

Long tradition enable multilocality

Extensive **access to second homes**: around half of populations in Sweden, Finland, Iceland and Norway have access to second homes (via ownership, or family).

What is a second home?

Second homes in Nordic countries traditionally means a detached house in a rural area where no one is permanently registered.

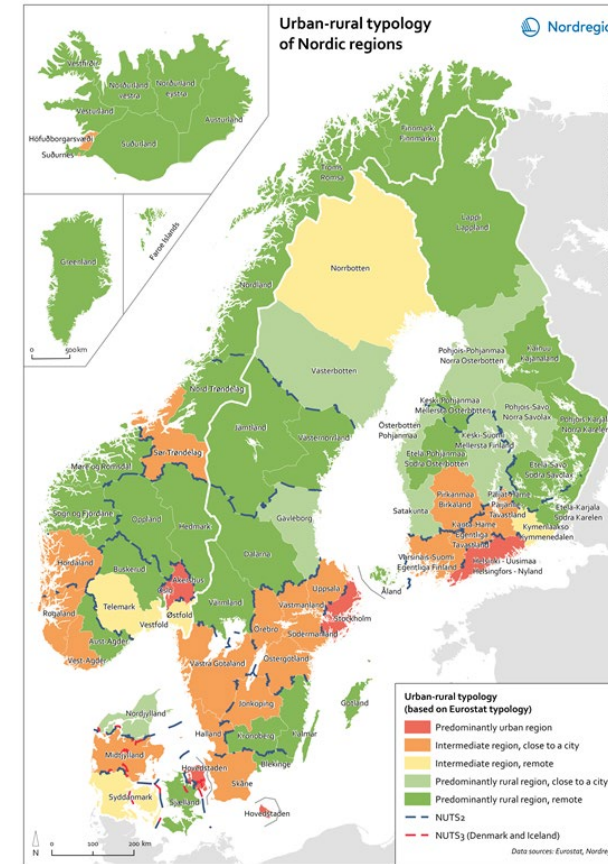
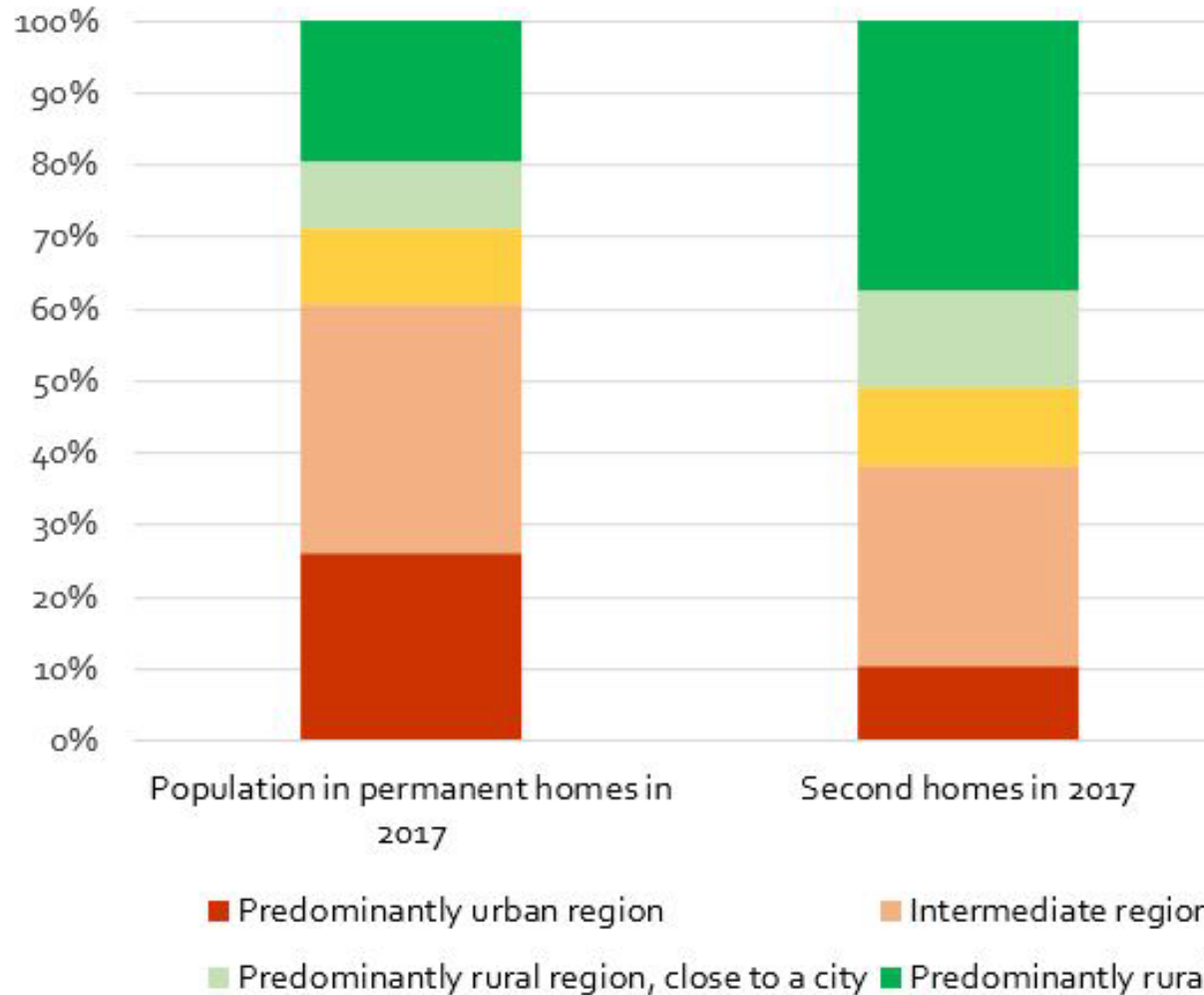
(DK: sommerhus, IS: sumarhús, FI: mökki, NO: hytta, SE: fritidshus)



Second homes used for winter vacations in Vemdalskalet, Härjedalen.

Photo: Johannes Lidmo

Second homes and community impact in Nordic countries based on urban rural typology



See more in Slätmo et al. 2019; Slätmo et al. 2020

The continuous stream of people from urban to rural municipalities is an “invisible” counter-urbanisation process

Where are the second homes located?

The main areas for second homes – both in numbers and in relation to permanent inhabitants are

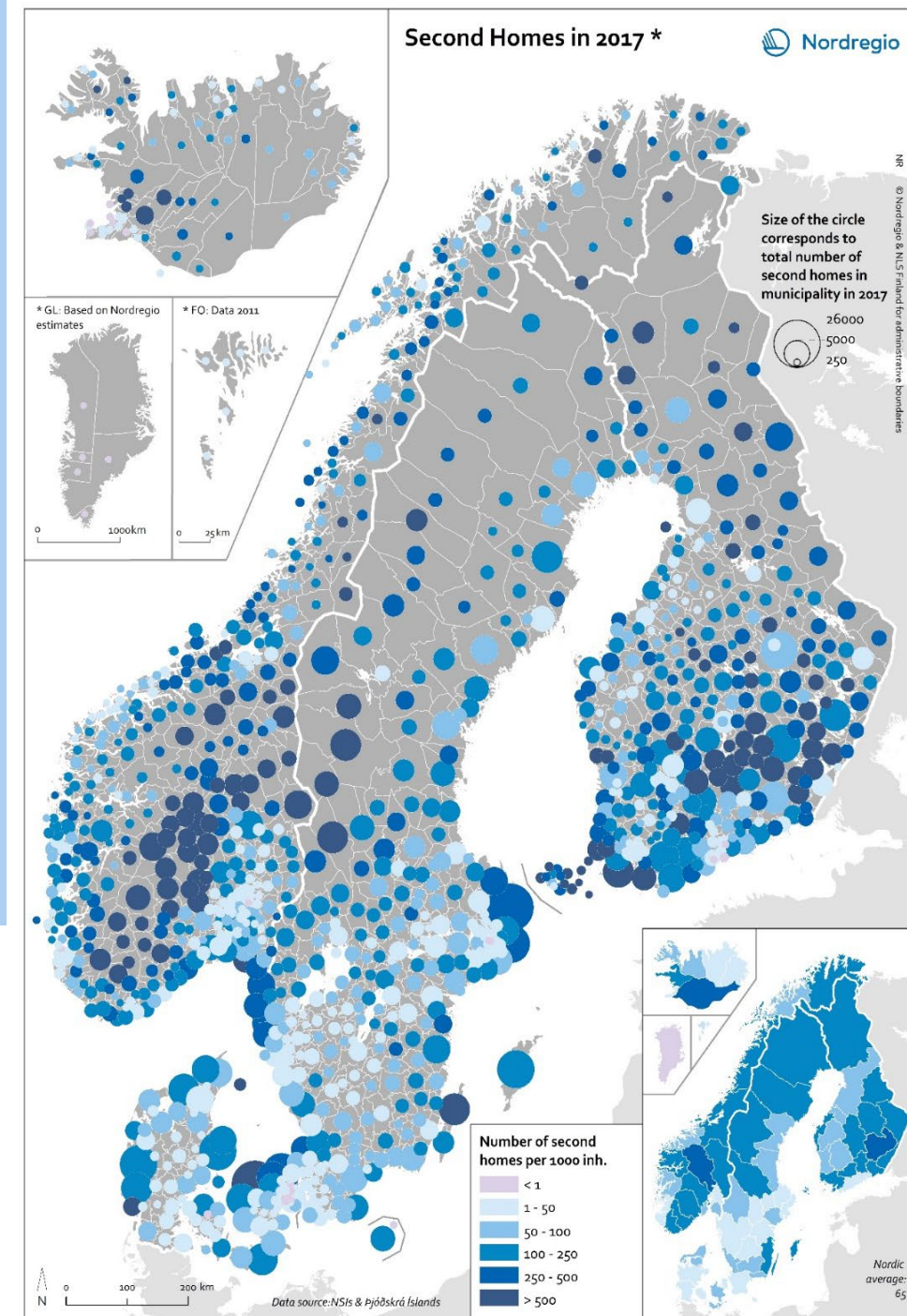
Denmark: northern Sjælland and the west-coast of Jylland

Finland: mid-eastern lake areas (Etelä-Savo/Södra Savolax) and south-west archipelago including Åland

Iceland: municipalities in proximity to Reykjavík in south of Iceland

Norway: southern mountain area in Norway (Inlandet and Buskerud fylke)

Sweden: southern mountains area (Dalarna and Jämtland Härjedalen), Stockholm archipelago and Öland



Implications for policy and planning

Regional implications of remote work in the Nordic countries

Different starting points, different stories:

- Iceland, "jobs without placement"
- Finland, "multilocality" high on the political agenda
- Norway, long history of "delocalisation" policy
- Sweden, potential evident but implications for regional policy as yet unclear
- Denmark, reducing congestion in bigger cities

Iceland: “jobs without placement” (Störf án staðsetningar)

- 10% of all state jobs should be advertised without placement by 2024
- All have the right to these jobs regardless of where they live
- Pre-pandemic policy that has gained a lot of traction since
- Never envisaged “working from home” but rather from workstations located around the country.

Húsnæði effir landshlutum

Suðurnes	4
Vesturland	12
Vestfirðir	13
Norðurland vestra	18
Norðurland eystra	25
Austurland	12
Suðurland	13
Landið allt	97

Veldu landshluta hér
fyrir ofan

Nánari upplýsingar
birtast þegar bendill er
færður yfir punkta

Athugið að á kortinu er
hægt að þysja inn (+)
og út (-)

Denmark Strait



Distance work: What will be the regional effects?

- Offers a genuine opportunity for more balanced regional development but the effects are unlikely to be evenly distributed
- Key considerations
 - Mobility
 - Migration
 - Multilocality
- More qualitative data is needed to understand the nature and implications of planning challenges

State of the Nordic Region 2022

Join the launch events on 23 March, the Nordic Day!



[Learn more and sign up:](https://nordregio.org/events/snr2022/?page&events=snr2022&post_type=events&pos=2800)

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Links to projects and upcoming reports

[Nordic rural service project 2021-2023](#)

[Nordic Urban Rural Flows project](#)

[Remote work and multilocality post Covid-19](#)

[Sign up to our Newsmail to be notified on the publication of State of the Nordic Region 2022](#)

References

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Slätmo, E., Vestergård, L. O., and Lidmo, J. (2020). Compact cities trigger high use of second homes in the Nordic Region. Nordregio Policy Brief 2020:2. <https://nordregio.org/publications/compact-cities-trigger-high-use-of-second-homes-in-the-nordic-region/>



Thank you!

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Learn more:

<https://nordregio.org/research/remote-work-and-multilocality-post-covid-19/>

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