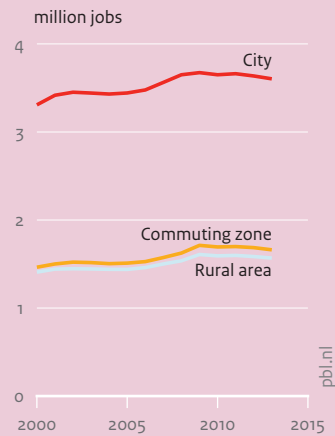


Cities are where the jobs are

Cities play an important role as meeting places in knowledge-based economies such as that of the Netherlands. Personal encounters, whether planned or accidental, provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and for learning from one another. The density of cities makes people more productive and enables the provision of higher quality and more varied services and amenities. Companies primarily locate

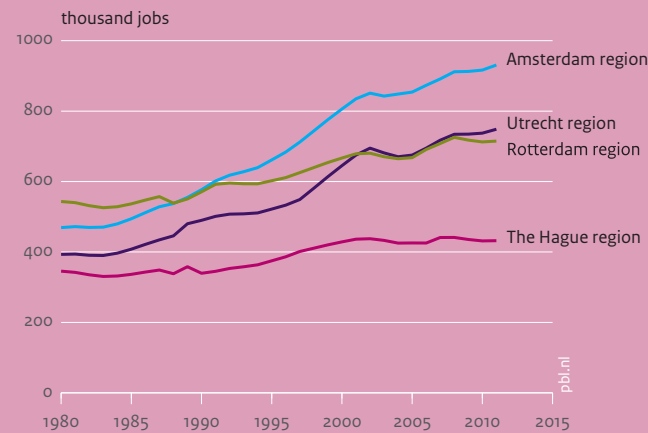
in cities to be in close proximity to their customers and specialised suppliers, and because of the large and well-educated labour market and the many opportunities for cooperation. Business clusters create new job markets and opportunities for suppliers, which may create additional agglomeration benefits. In short, cities are where the jobs are.

Employment by urban-rural typology



Job growth in the four largest urban regions

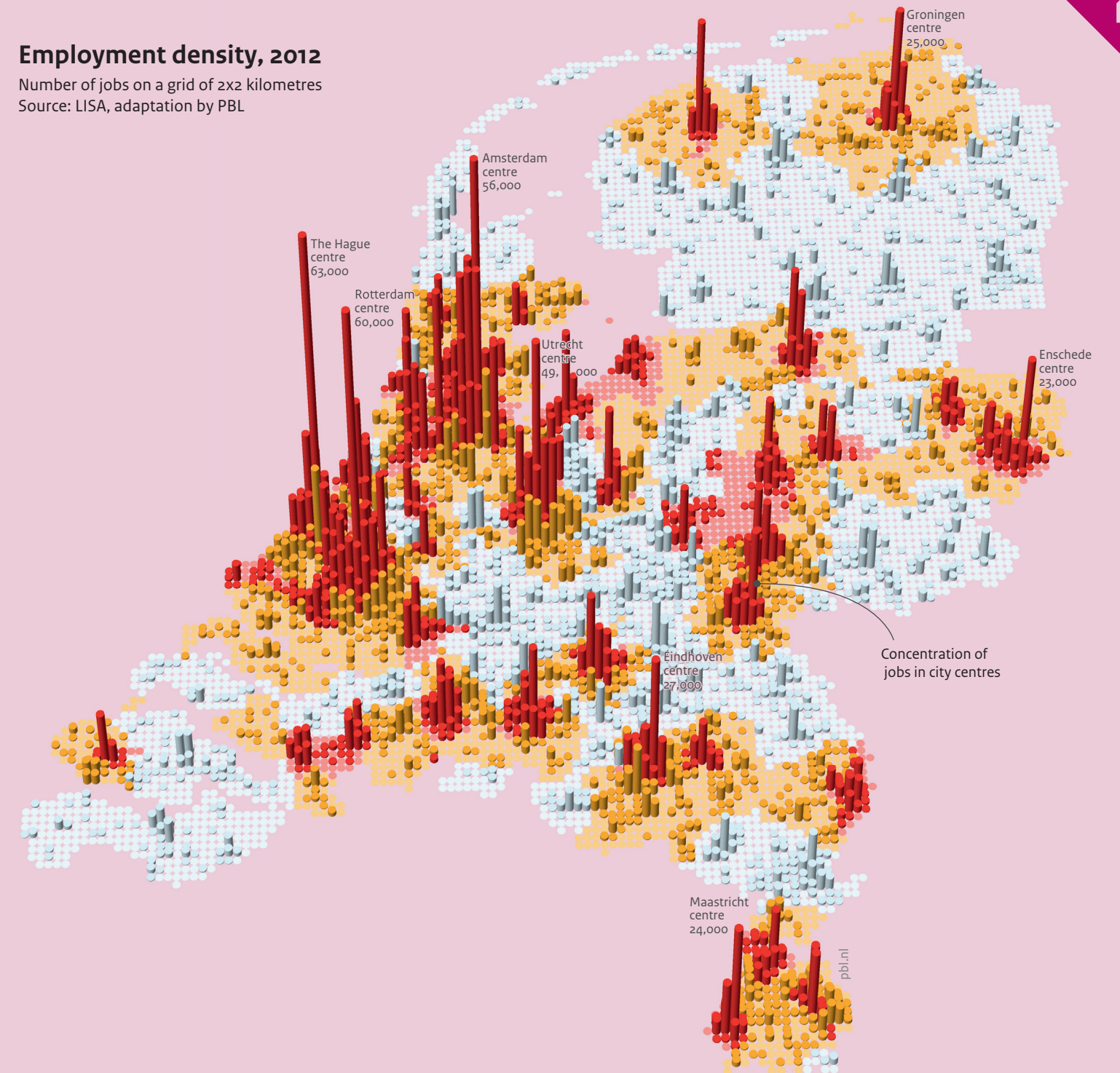
There are significant differences between cities. Amsterdam and Utrecht had the strongest job growth over the 1980–2012 period, whereas in Rotterdam and The Hague growth was more modest. In 1980, most jobs were in the Rotterdam region. Now, most are in Amsterdam and Utrecht.



Source: Cambridge Econometrics; adaptation by PBL

Employment density, 2012

Number of jobs on a grid of 2x2 kilometres
Source: LISA, adaptation by PBL



- City
- Commuting zone
- Rural area
- Many jobs in the city
- Many jobs in the commuting zone
- Many jobs in the rural area

Growth and decline smaller than 100 persons per grid cell are not shown on the map