

COMPETE: MESSAGES FROM EUROPEAN CITIES FOR THE SNR

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COMPETE

Answer 4 questions:

1. What is it?
2. What did we do?
3. What did we find?
4. So what for SNR?

1. WHAT IS COMPETE?

Aims

Interreg IIIC city network

- Exchange knowledge/good practice competitiveness
- Improve profile & performance European city-regions
- Develop European capacity

Focus

Concerns provincial cities

- Not punching weight
- Falling behind London
- Lack powers, responsibilities, resources
- Lagging European cities

Drivers competitiveness - innovation, connectivity, skills, place quality, governance

Organisation

- DCLG, UK Core Cities, European Partners
- Sheffield leads for Core Cities
- Helsinki, Rotterdam, Dortmund, Munich, Lyon, Barcelona
- Funded EU & DCLG

2. WHAT DID WE DO?

Events

Sheffield – Governance

Dortmund – Skills

Barcelona – Creativity

Helsinki – Innovation

Munich – Networks

Rotterdam – Connectivity

Lyon – Clusters

London - Final Conference

Knowledge

Knowledge Resource Centre

- Sharing experiences
- Benchmarking data
- City profiles
- Good practice

Final Report

3. WHAT DID WE FIND?

Complexity not dominance

- Great differences Europe
- But common challenges, principles
- Not continental leads, UK lags
- Some continental struggling
- Core Cities improving
- UK cities do very well
- London law unto self

Ups and downs

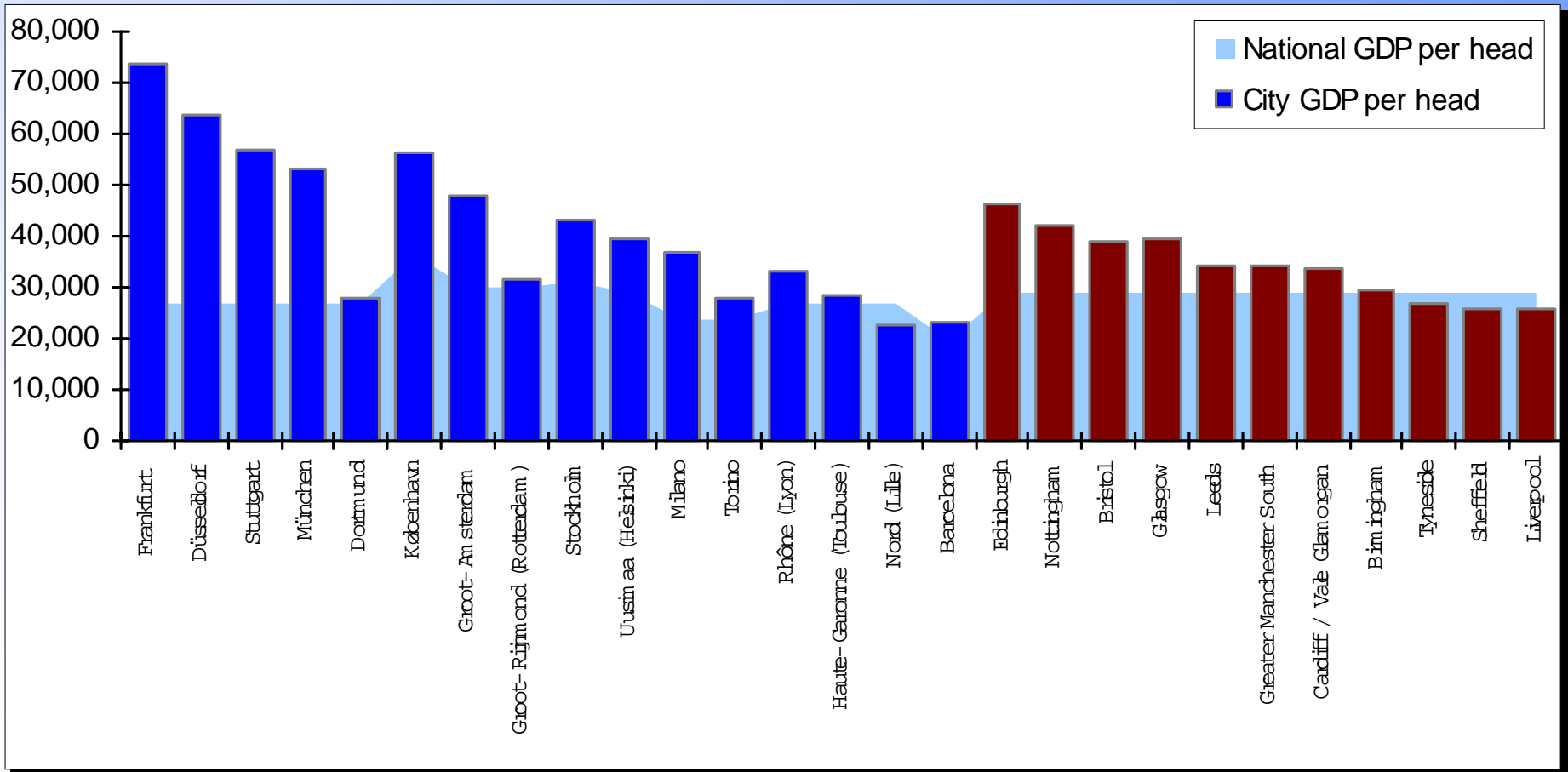
UK leads continental

- Integrated urban regeneration
- Private sector partnerships

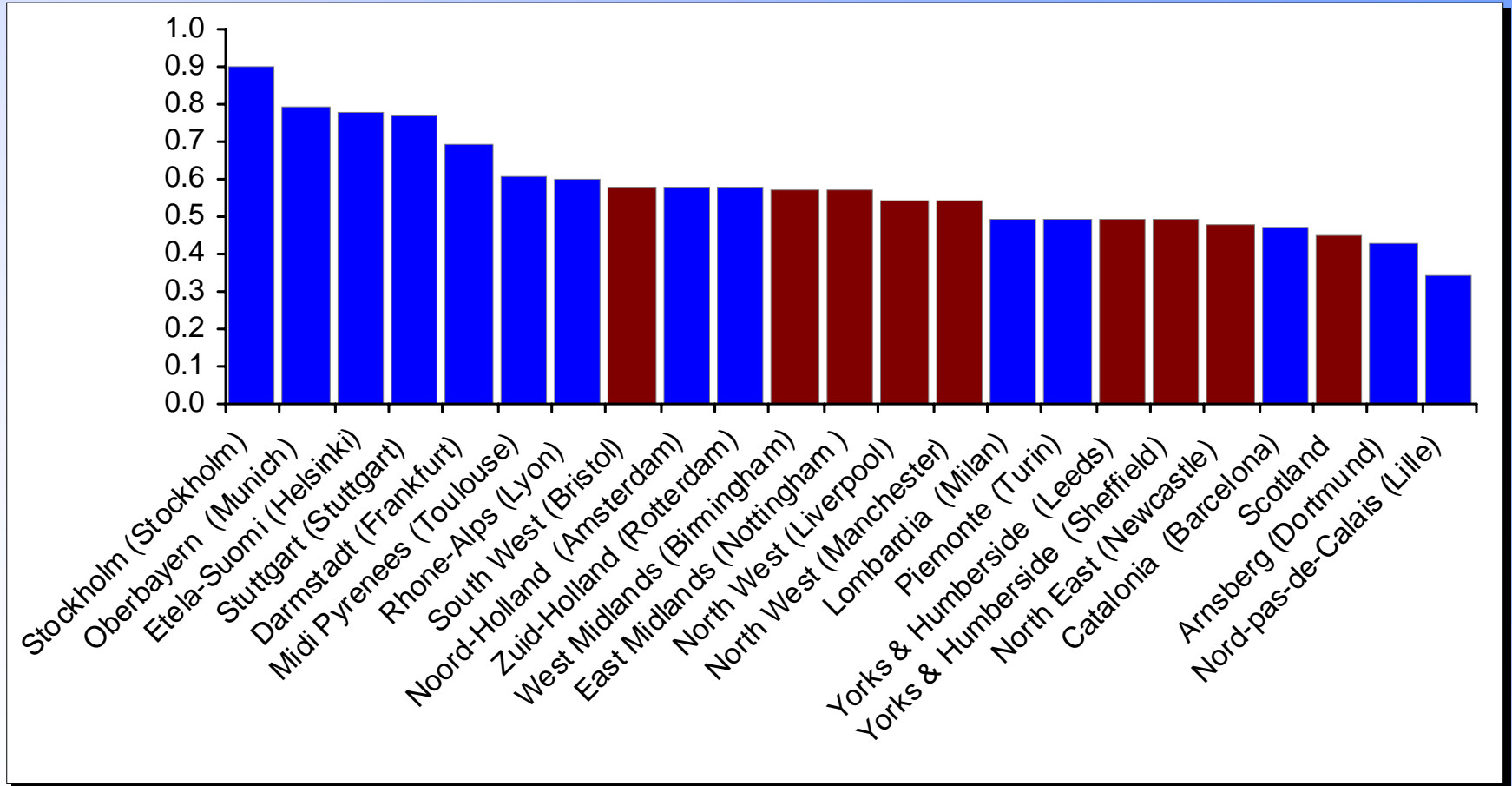
But best continental lead on

- GDP, innovation, skills, connectivity, demographics

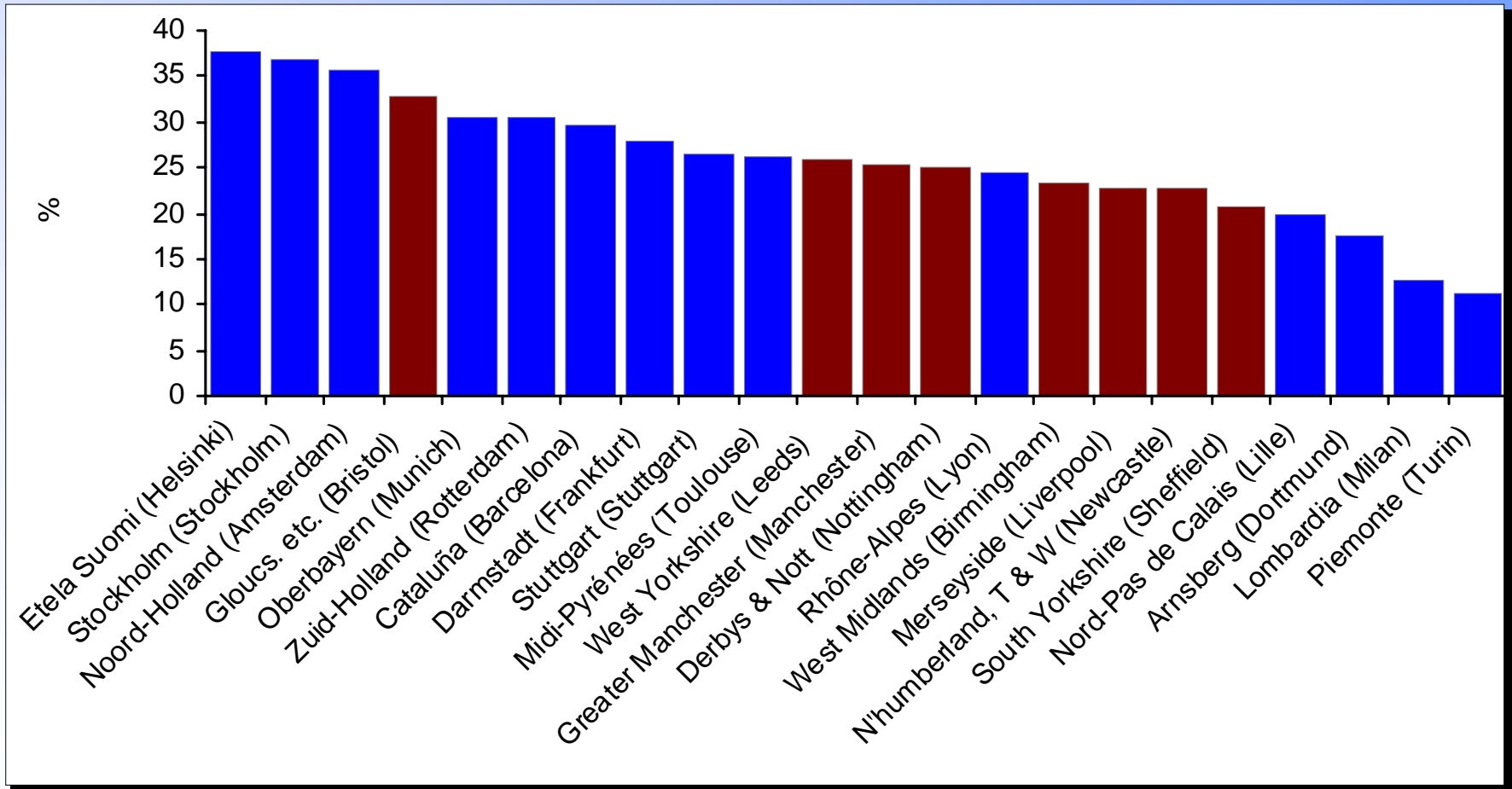
GDP per capita 2004 (euros) –



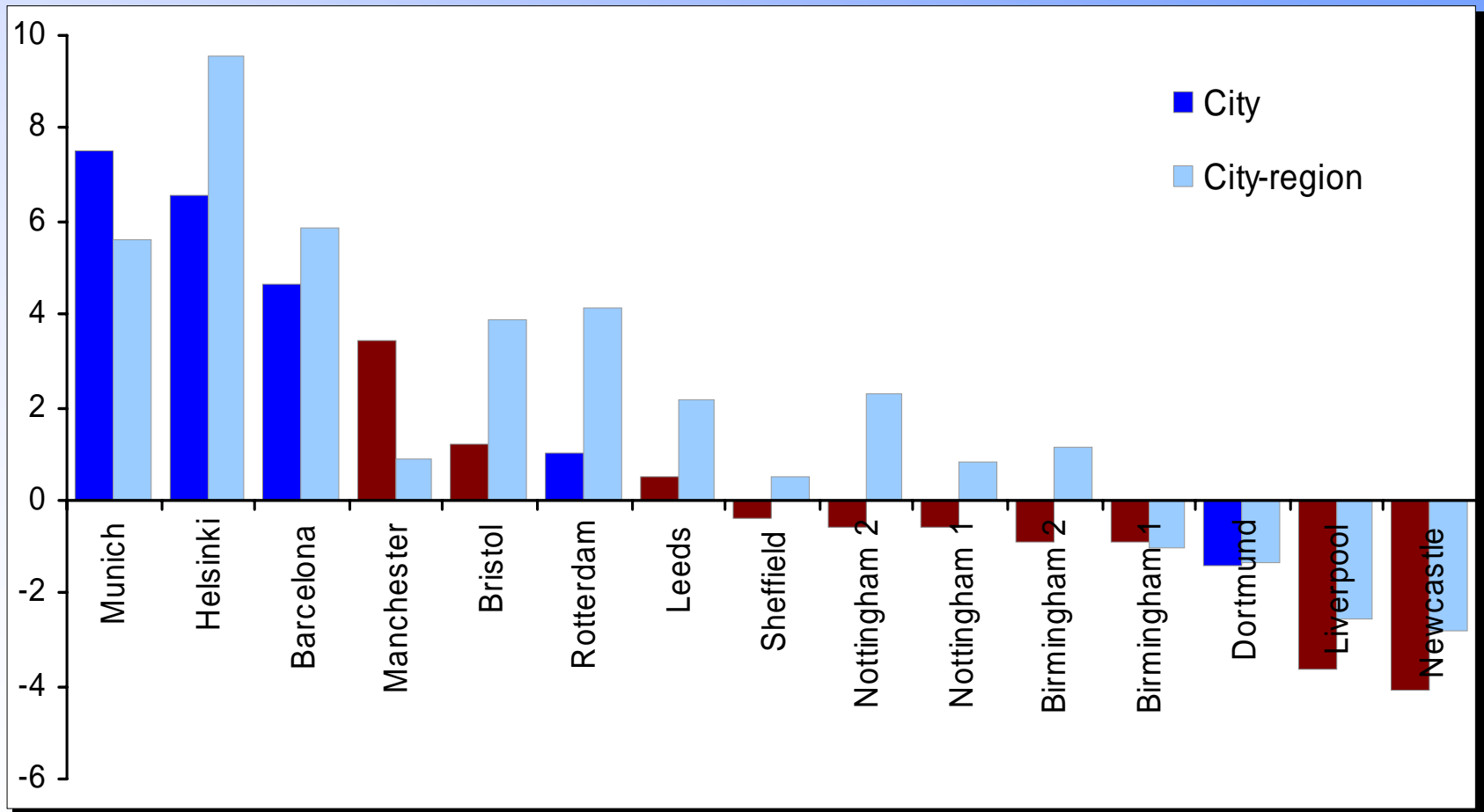
European Innovation Scoreboard 2006



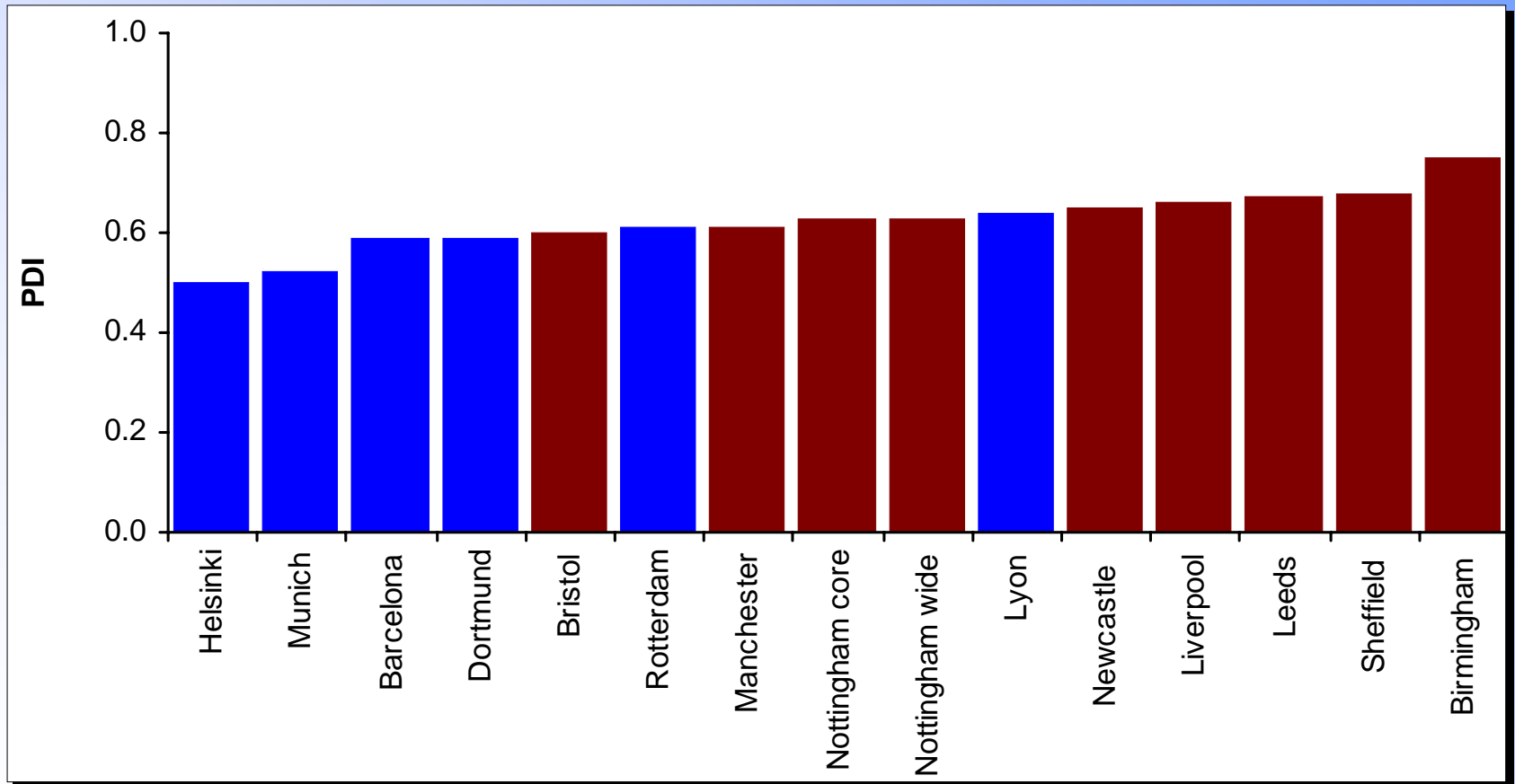
%age Working Age Population Degrees 2005



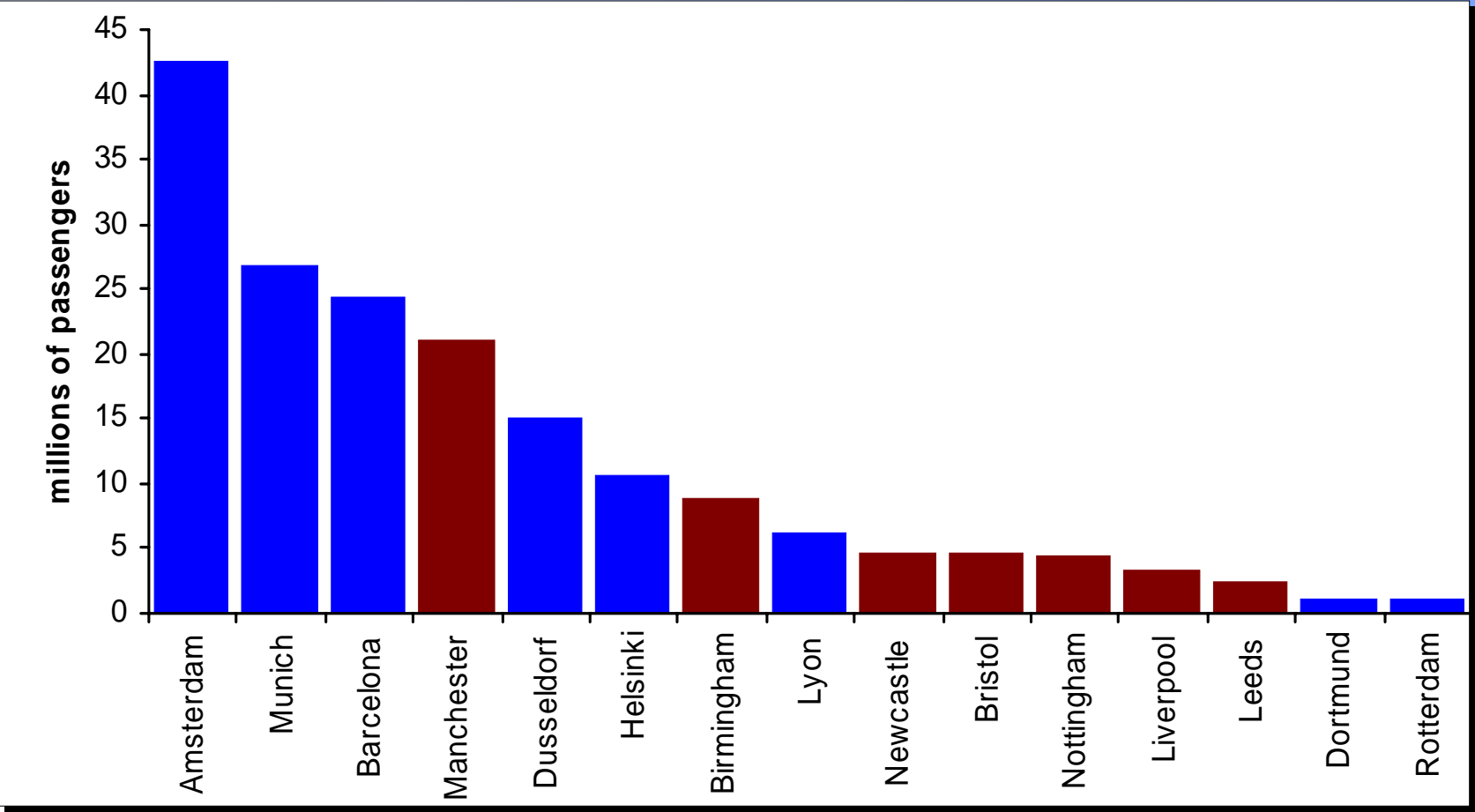
Population Change 1996-2004



Population Dependency Index 2004



Airport Passengers 2004



Balance Sheet

- Continental cities dragging national economy up
- Some UK cities dragging down
- London drives national economy
- Need all perform better for UK

4. SO WHAT FOR SNR?

Messages From Cities

- Sheffield – leadership matters
- Dortmund – skills crucial
- Helsinki – cultural foundations innovation
- Barcelona – creativity & competitiveness
- Lyon – clusters & national strategy
- Munich – networks & competitiveness
- Rotterdam – beyond connectivity

Policy Messages SNR

No silver bullet but

- Cities matter
- Competitiveness cohesion complementary
- Beyond renaissance to competitiveness
- Entrepreneurial attitudes more than tools
- Long termism crucial

Policy Messages SNR

- National policies crucial
- Public sector crucial
- Balance government & cities - contractual, not targets, powers, resources
- Working bigger scale, city region
- Voluntarism

Policy Messages SNR

- Leadership yes – not elected mayors
- Networks – benefits outweigh costs
- Talent & place quality - not financial incentives for firms
- Universities crucial
- Innovation can be routinised

So What For SNR?

Endorsed some key messages

- Cities matter
- Local government economic role
- Local fiscal resources
- Working bigger scale, city region
- Voluntary agreements
- Working in partnership
- Contracts not targets

So What For Minister?

KEEP PEDDLING THE BIKE!

ONLY FASTER!!