

Kanet Ruksakul 2009: The Role of Economic Sectors and Factors Affecting Economic Growth of the Eastern Provinces of Thailand. Master of Economics Major Field: Economics, Department of Economics. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Sungvean Chanthongkaew, Ph.D. 135 pages.

The study has two aims: 1) to analyse and identify the strategic position of economic sectors in provinces in the Eastern region of Thailand 2) to analyse and identify the determinants of sectoral growth of sectors arrived from the first objective. The study uses the secondary data of 1997 – 2006 periods by Shift and Share Analysis Method and Multiple Regression Method.

The results of the study are as follows. For Rayong, Chantaburi and Prachinburi the financial sector has been their competitive sector. Chonburi has several potential sectors including mining, electricity, wholesale-retail trade, transport, and financial. Trad has electricity, hotel, and financial sectors. Chacherngsao also has several competitive sectors: mining, manufacturing, wholesale-retail trade, and hotel service. Nakonnayok has hotel service as the engine of growth. Unfortunately, Sakaew has no competitive sector.

The determinants of sectoral growth are the supply of credit, population, and number of factories.

The study has this recommendation. For regional and provincial economic growth, the availability of credit is very important. Moreover, it is necessary for the provincial strategic plans to be in line with the result of this study.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature

____ / ____ / ____