

ENVIRONMENTAL REGIONALISATION

Key questions and key findings

How is the Slovak territory differentiated in terms of quality of environment and its trend?

- In 2012, 13.5% of the Slovak environment was categorised as impacted or heavily impacted. Compared to 2007, this share has been reduced by approximately 2%.

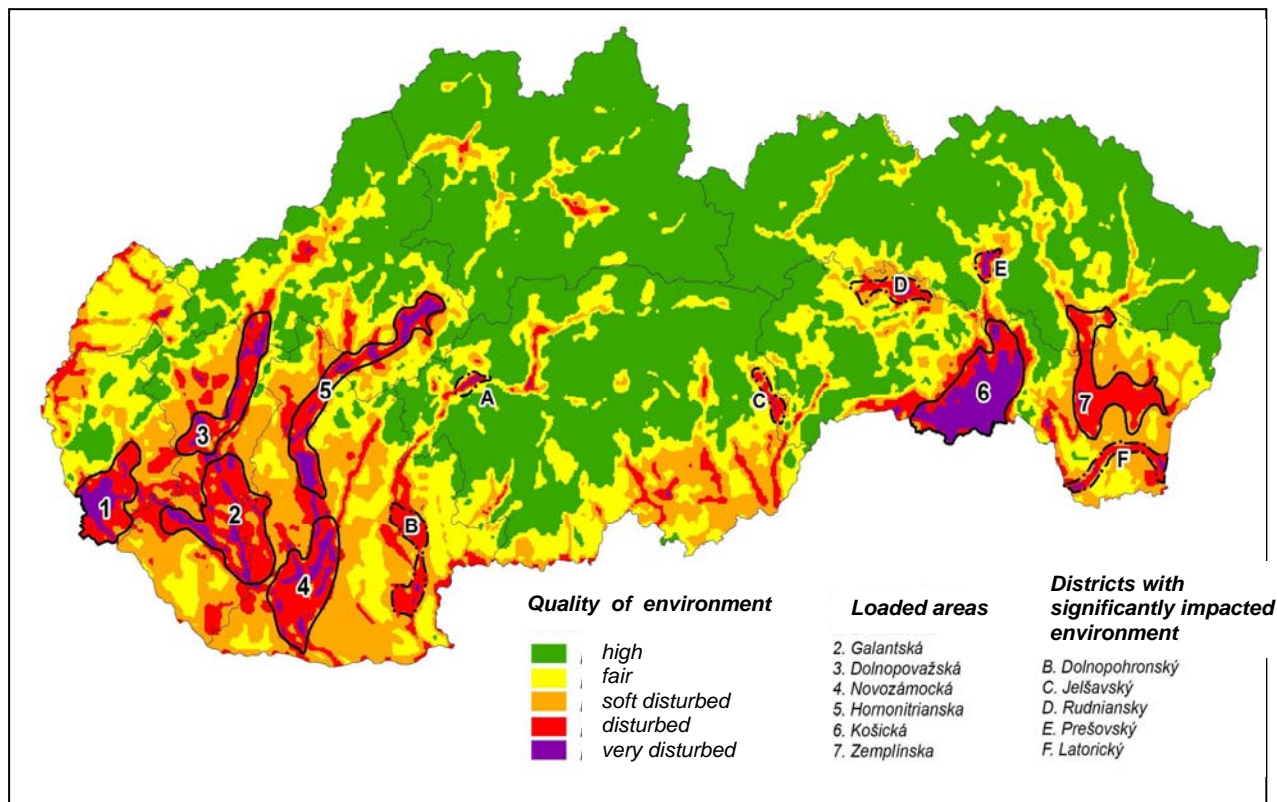
Environmental regionalisation and loaded areas

Environmental regional classification of Slovakia represents a cross-sectional source of information on the state of the environment and reflects its differentiated situation in different parts of the Slovak territory. Slovak regions show diverse load situation for individual components of the environment and the risk factors show various degree of representation in them.

Unified system of selected environmental characteristics under the process of environmental regional classification involves environmental assessment by selected criteria and strategies applied to the environment and environmental impact assessment, selection of regions with the same quality or degree of endangerment of the environment. This is done through analyses applied to individual environmental components (as well as risk factors) and partial syntheses both within specific environmental components as well as among the individual components.

A map assessing the Slovak territory by **5 degrees of quality of environment** developed by the Slovak Environment Agency represents one of the outputs. This map helped identify the most **loaded areas** - their core typically comprises territories within the 5th degree with the most damaged environment. To them were also added territories mainly in the 4th degree of environmental quality, taking into account the geo-morphological, hydrological, and other relevant criteria. Besides thus identified territories, it was necessary to define yet another category of territories with relatively less favourable quality of environment - **districts with significantly impacted environment**. These do not follow the "loaded area" category by their territories, nor by their proportion of the 5th degree of quality of environment, but reflect the remaining environmental issues from the past when they had formed part of the loaded areas (districts A, C, D, E) or have recently been differentiated after new water balance assessments were applied. (districts B, F).

Quality of environment with determined loaded areas and districts with significantly impacted environment



Source: SEA

Differentiation of the Slovak territory by environmental quality

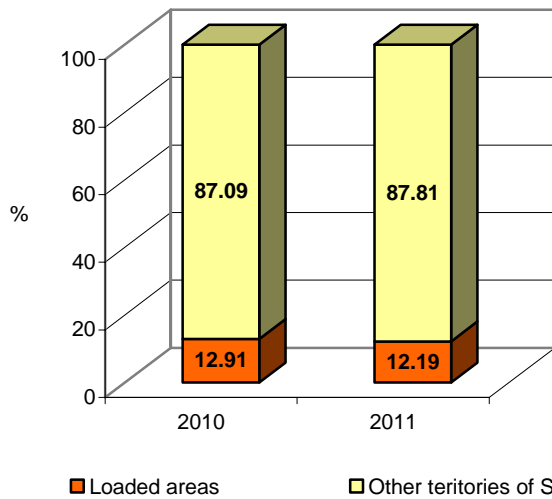
Quality of environment	Size (km ²) by 2007	% of the SR size by 2007	Size (km ²) in 2010	% of the SR size	Difference in size (km ²)	Difference %
1 – high quality environment	19 661	40.0	23 007	46.9	+ 3 346	+ 6.9
2 – sufficient environment	12 580	25.7	11 034	22.5	- 1 546	- 3.2
3 – slightly impacted environment	9 055	18.5	8 380	17.1	- 675	- 1.4
4 – impacted environment	5 296	10.8	5 235	10.7	- 61	- 0.1
5 – significantly impacted environment	2 442	5.0	1 378	2.8	- 1 064	- 2.2

Source: SEA

* revision of differentiation of the Slovak territory by environmental quality has been carried out every three years

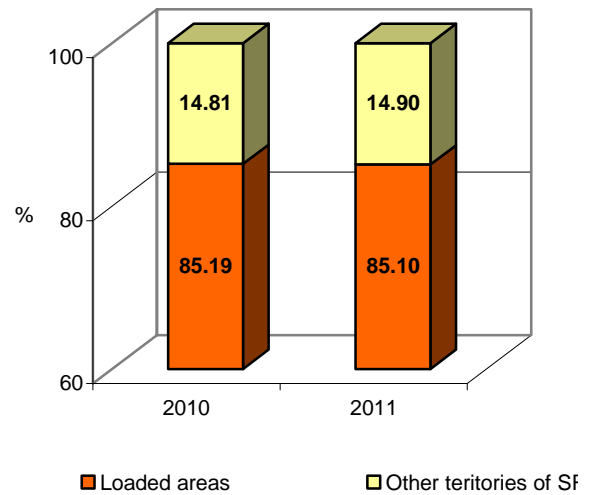
The following charts show that in the area of air pollution, water contamination, and waste generation that have significantly contributed to the state of environment in the territory; and most indicators show that the loaded areas bear 50% - 90% of load in Slovakia documented by individual indicators.

PM emissions from stationary sources in LA



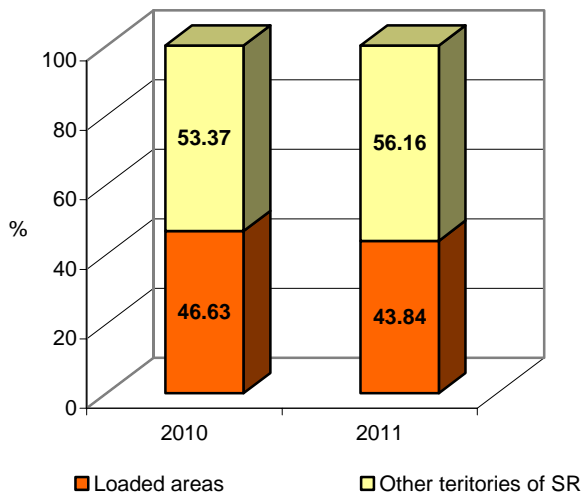
Source: SHMI

SO₂ emissions from stationary sources in LA



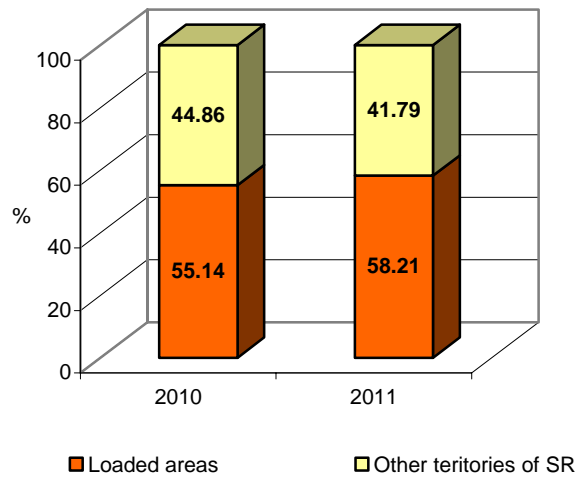
Source: SHMI

NO_x emissions from stationary sources in LA



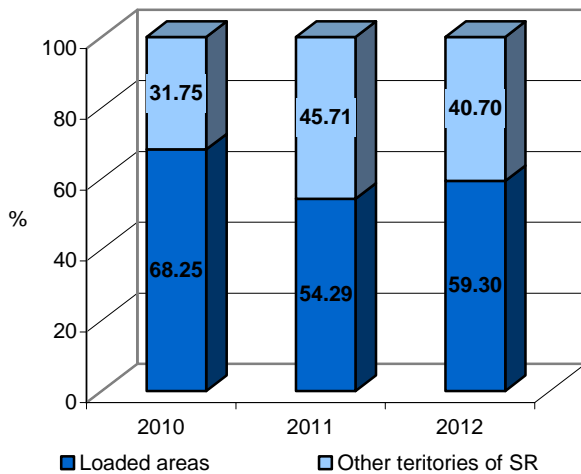
Source: SHMI

CO emissions from stationary sources in LA



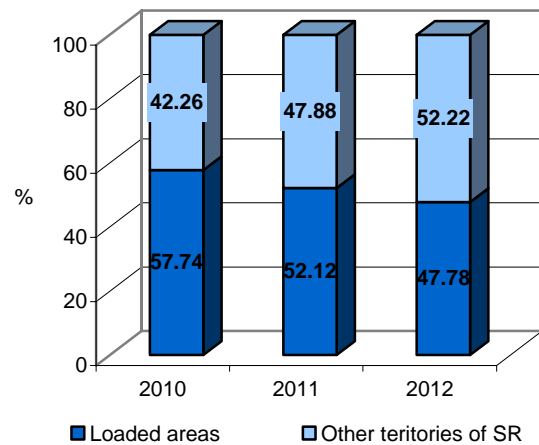
Source: SHMI

Discharged BOD₅ contamination in LA



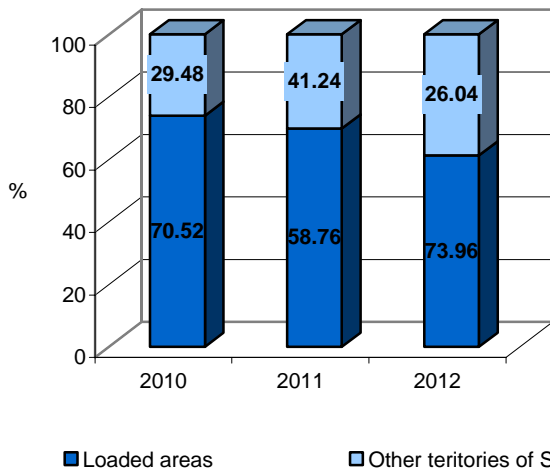
Source: SHMI

Discharged COD_{Cr} contamination in LA



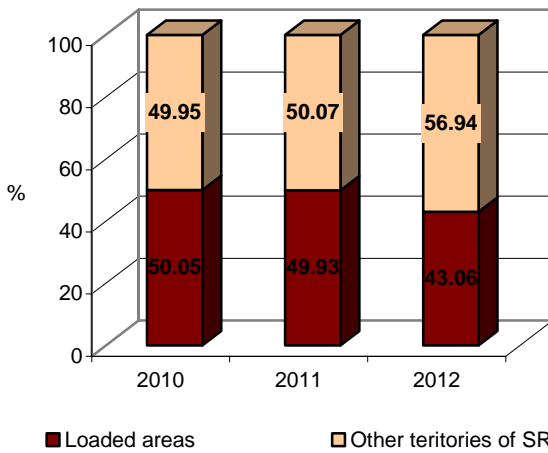
Source: SHMI

Discharged IS contamination in LA



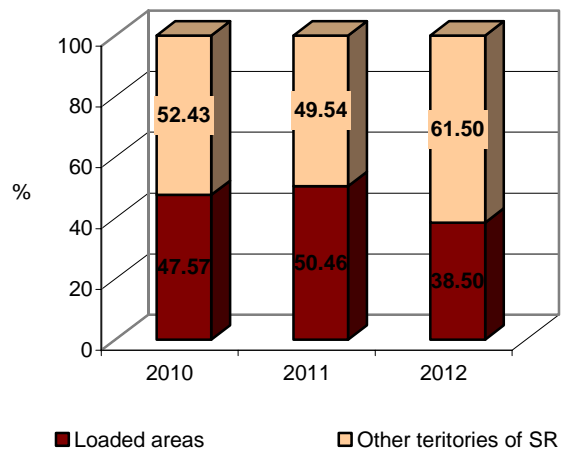
Source: SHMI

Other industrial waste generated in LA



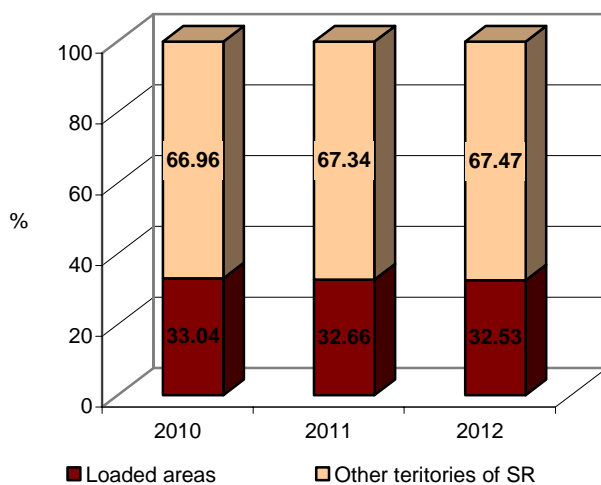
Source: SEA

Hazardous industrial waste generated in LA



Source: SO SR

Municipal waste generated in LA



Source: SEA