

Kaczmarczyk, Paweł; Dąbrowski, Paweł; Fihel, Agnieszka; Stefańska, Renata

**Working Paper**

## Recent trends in international migration in Poland: The 2012 SOPEMI report

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CMR Working Papers

71/129

# Recent Trends in International Migration in Poland The 2012 SOPEMI Report

EDITED BY:  
**PAWEŁ KACZMARCZYK**

**Recent Trends in International Migration in Poland**  
**The 2012 SOPEMI Report**

Prepared by:

Paweł Dąbrowski (sections 2 & 6)

Agnieszka Fihel (sections 3 & 5)

Paweł Kaczmarczyk (sections 1 & 4)

Renata Stefańska (section 2)

corresponding author: Paweł Kaczmarczyk

**Paweł Kaczmarczyk** – Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw; Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of Warsaw; e-mail: [p.kaczmarczyk@uw.edu.pl](mailto:p.kaczmarczyk@uw.edu.pl)

**Paweł Dąbrowski** – Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw; [djp@plusnet.pl](mailto:djp@plusnet.pl)

**Agnieszka Fihel** – Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw; [afihel@gmail.com](mailto:afihel@gmail.com)

**Renata Stefańska** – Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw;  
[r.stefanska@uw.edu.pl](mailto:r.stefanska@uw.edu.pl)

**Abstract:**

This paper is a SOPEMI report for Poland for 2012. It presents the most important recent developments in migration policy and migration trends to and from Poland. It includes a brief analysis of recent economic developments shaping migration from and into Poland, changes in migration policy of Poland, recent trends in the transborder mobility, emigration from Poland and immigration to Poland. It concerns, among others, the newly published results of the 2011 population census. Additional in-depth analysis of the 2011 regularization action in Poland assesses its rationale, application and short- and long-term impacts. The statistical annex includes all data concerning the recent trends in migration from and into Poland.

**Keywords:** international migration, emigration, immigration, migration policy, Poland, SOPEMI report

**Streszczenie:**

Niniejszy tekst jest raportem SOPEMI dla Polski dla roku 2012. Przedstawia on najnowsze zmiany w polityce migracyjnej i trendach w dziedzinie migracji z i do Polski. Raport zawiera krótką analizę uwarunkowań ekonomicznych migracji, polityki migracyjnej Polski, ruchu granicznego, emigracji z i imigracji do Polski. Raport opiera się między innymi na najnowszych wynikach Narodowego Spisu Powszechnego 2011. Dodatkowo, szczegółowa analiza programu amnestii z 2011 roku poświęcona jest jej celowi, realizacji oraz krótko- i długookresowym efektach. Aneks statystyczny zawiera wszystkie dane dotyczące najnowszych migracji z i do Polski.

**Słowa kluczowe:** migracje międzynarodowe, emigracja, imigracja, polityka migracyjna, Polska, raport SOPEMI

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## 1. Contextual issues

The EU enlargement constitutes the most important event in the recent history of Poland. It impacted many areas of life and significantly shaped the recent economic situation of the country. Table 1 clearly shows that between 2005 and 2008 Poland experienced rapid economic growth marked by over 5% annual GDP growth rate. Very high pace of economic growth was accompanied by significant inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (with accumulated stock of FDI as high as 45% of GDP in 2010) and positive developments on the labour market. In terms of labour market measures, the post-accession period meant an increase in employment rates (from 51% in 2003 to almost 60% in 2008) and decrease in unemployment rates (from almost 20% in 2003 to 6.5% in 2008).

**Table 1.1. Selected macroeconomic indicators, 2003-2012**

Measure	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Real GDP growth	3.9	5.3	3.6	6.2	6.8	5.1	1.6	3.9	4.3	2.4**
GDP per capita in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS) (EU-27 = 100)	48.9	50.6	51.4	52.3	53.8	57.6	61.0	62.0	64	.
Public balance in % of GDP	-6.3	-5.7	-4.1	-3.6	-1.9	-3.7	-7.3	-7.9	-5.0	.
General government consolidated gross debt in % of GDP	47.1	45.7	47.1	47.7	45	47.1	50.9	54.8	56.4	.
FDI - flows as % of GDP	2.2	5.1	3.4	5.7	5.5	2.8	3.2	2.1	3.7	.
FDI - stocks as % of GDP	24	31.1	31.4	35.1	38.8	32.2	41.5	45.3	41.1	.
Consumer price index in %	0.8	3.5	2.1	1.0	2.6	4.2	3.5	2.6	4.3	3.8***
Employment rate (15-64)	51.2	51.7	52.8	54.5	57.0	59.2	59.3	59.3	59.7	60.1***
Unemployment rate (LFS)	19.3	16.2	15.7	11.5	8.0	6.4	8.2	9.6	9.7	10.4***

. no data

\* percentage change m/m-12

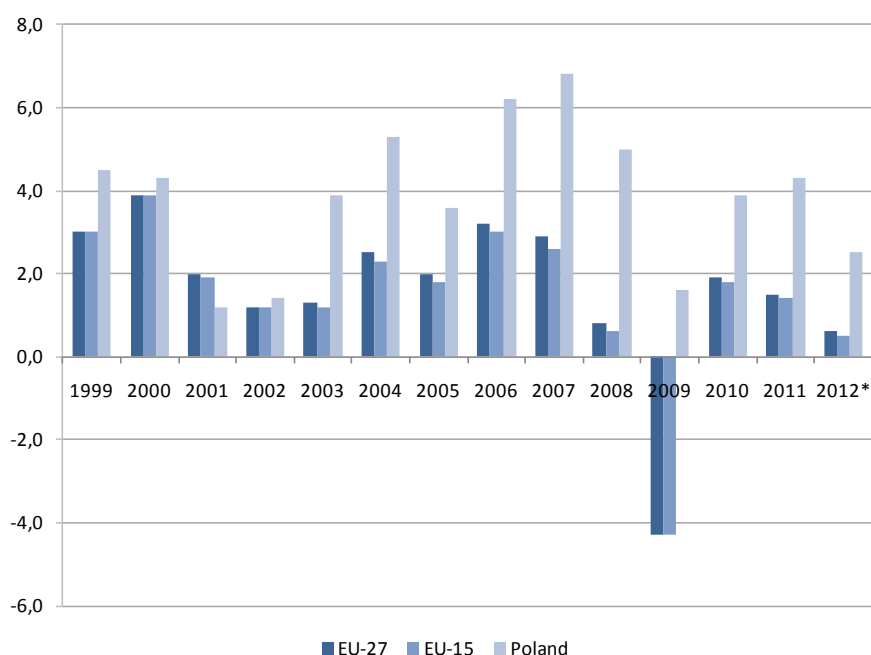
\*\* forecasted data

\*\*\* as for October 2012

Source: Own elaboration based on Eurostat, CSO and National Bank of Poland data.

Importantly, the above described development did not change significantly in the last 4 years, i.e. since the beginning of severe economic downturn in the EU area. Since 2008 most EU countries have struggled with economic downturn (see Figure 1). Severe economic recession was recorded particularly in southern European countries (Greece, Portugal, Spain, Italy), in Ireland as well as in several New Member States (particularly the Baltic states). Against this background, Poland constitutes an interesting example of a country which successfully dealt with difficult economic conditions.

**Figure 1. Real GDP growth – Poland, EU15 and EU27, 1999-2012**



\* forecasted values for 2012

Source: Own elaboration based on Eurostat data.

This tendency was particularly well visible in 2009 when Poland was one of only a few EU countries with positive GDP growth (1.6%). During the following 2 years the situation improved quicker than in the neighbouring countries (and also than in many best developed countries of the EU). There are some controversies concerning forecasts for 2012 and 2013: it seems that we should expect a slight decline in the GDP growth rate, particularly in 2013 (forecasts vary between 1.5 and 2.5%), but there are still no clear signs of recession. There are, however, some serious economic problems faced by the Polish economy with public finances being the most important issue – in 2010, the general government consolidated debt (gross) was as high as 54.9% of GDP which means that it was only 0.1% below the precautionary thresholds foreseen in the Polish Constitution (55%<sup>1</sup>). Theoretically, the data for 2011 show a higher level of the debt, but due to some budgetary actions and changes in categorization of particular expenditures it was still possible to avoid the special measures foreseen in case of exceeding the precautionary thresholds.

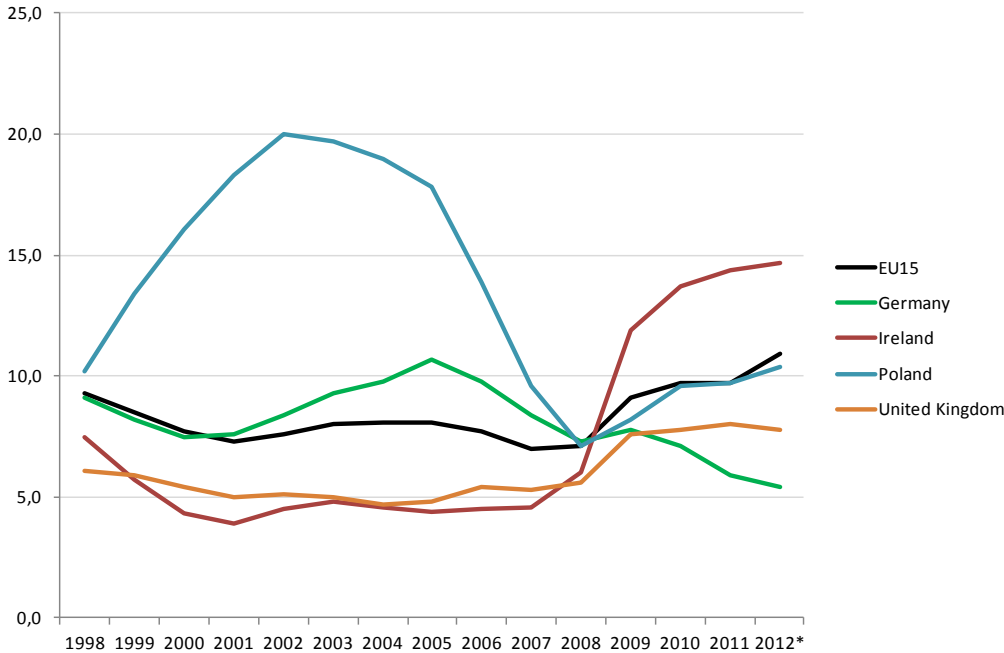
As commented in previous reports, in demographic terms the Polish society belongs to the youngest in the whole EU. This situation is changing on a much faster pace than observed before in the EU15 countries, however. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) decreased from more than 2.4 in 1983 to 1.2 in 2003 (similarly to other post-socialist countries) and then increased only moderately (to over 1.4), but in 2011 it was as low as 1.297 – very low as for European standards. On the other hand, life expectancy is on constant rise: since 1989 the life expectancy at birth increased by over 6 years for men (to 72.4 years in 2011) and 5.8 years for women (to 80.9 years). This process is to be perceived as one of the major achievements of

<sup>1</sup> In case when real government consolidated debt is higher than 55% it is necessary to provide budget assuming decline in following year as well as to impose special measures concerning public spending.

Poland in the last 20 years, however, when juxtaposed to dramatically low fertility rates it leads to serious changes in the age structure of the population. The ageing of the Polish population is expected to influence both labour market phenomena as well as welfare from 2020 onwards and may – for obvious reasons – impact immigration to Poland (e.g. growing demand in personal services).

One of the main issues which seriously impacted the general situation of Poland as a country of origin as well as country of destination was the labour market situation. As shown on the figure below (Figure 2) the Polish economy was marked by a very high unemployment rate, for almost the whole period of transition, reaching levels as high as 20% in 2002.

**Figure 2. Unemployment rate (according to LFS) in Poland and major destination countries, 1998-2012**

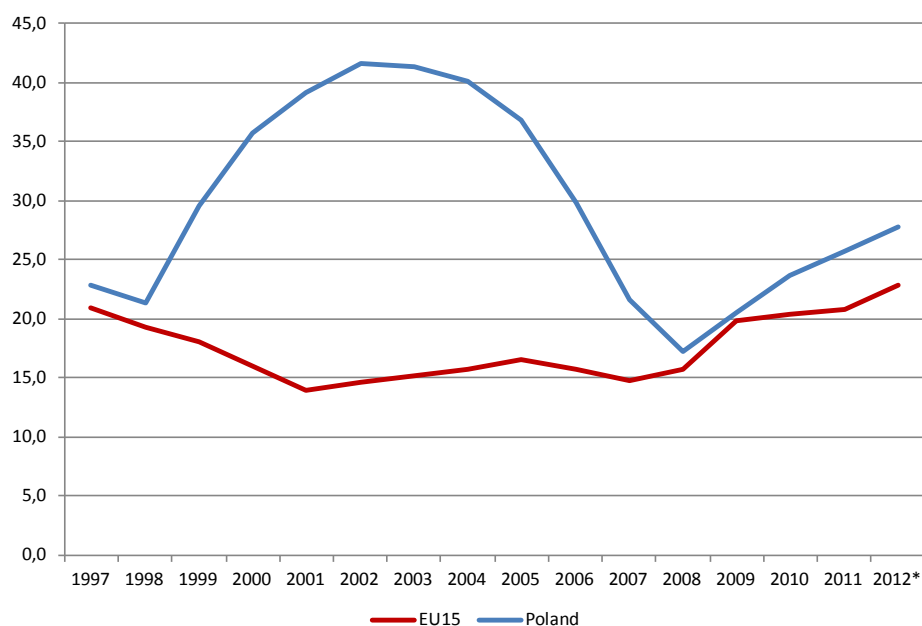


\* Data as for October 2012  
 Source: Own elaboration based on the Eurostat data.

It is thus important to acknowledge that one of the main outcomes of the post-enlargement economic boom was a serious improvement of the situation on the labour market. This trend was particularly well visible until 2007, when the unemployment rate (according to the Labour Force Survey, LFS) fell below 10%. At the same time, employment rates started to increase and this was the first time since early 1990s when Poland experienced a significant drop in economic inactivity (caused mainly by structural changes in the public sector). The 2012 employment rate in Poland was as high as 60.1 (as for October 2012), still far below the EU average but significantly higher than in the pre-accession period (e.g. 51% in 2002-2004). The economic downturn brought an end to the process of mass job creation and impacted unemployment rates. As shown in Table 1, since 2008 the unemployment rate is on the rise again and in the end of 2012 it was higher than 10%.



**Figure 3. Youth unemployment rate (according to LFS) in Poland and EU15, 1997-2012**



Source: Own elaboration based on the Eurostat data.

In terms of potential push factors of migration it is important to assess youth unemployment (see Figure 3). A very high unemployment rate among the younger part of the population (as high as 40% in years 2002-2005) was commonly presented as the major driver of post-enlargement migration from Poland. In fact, mobility of young persons – commonly without experiences on the labour market or just after completion of studies – resulted from poor job offers on the local labour markets and, to some extent, impacted the general situation on the labour market. In this context it is important to note that since 2008 the youth unemployment rate is again on the rise and in 2012 reached almost 30% (much higher than the EU15 average). The situation of young people on the Polish labour market may turn to be one of the decisive factors with respect to future migration flows.

Finally, as commented in previous reports, data presented in the UNDP reports on Human Development (UNDP 2009, 2010) prove that Poland's transition from state governed towards market economy has been successful. In 2010, the value of HDI for Poland was as high as 0.813. A year before – in 2009 – for the very first time in history, Poland was ranked as a country with high level of development according to the UNDP methodology<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> See comments on the HDI methodology in SOPEMI Report 2010 and detailed data in SOPEMI Report 2011. The next UNDP report including up-dated values of HDI will be published only by March 2013.

## 2. Changes in Polish migration policy in years 2011-2012

### 2.1. Polish law concerning foreigners – an outline

The Polish law concerning foreigners consists of several legal acts which normalize different aspects of immigration to Poland. Irrespective of the acts dedicated specifically to the questions of immigration, many questions connected with their functioning in Poland are regulated by acts of general character, such as acts concerning social assistance, system of education, etc.<sup>3</sup> The Constitution of the Republic of Poland<sup>4</sup> determines the most fundamental assumptions as far as the legal situation of the foreigner in Poland is concerned. In that respect, article 37 of the Constitution is crucial, which states that every person under the authority of the Republic of Poland benefits from the liberties and rights ensured by the Constitution of the Republic of Poland, whereas exceptions to this rule referring to foreigners are defined by the act. The Constitution of the Republic of Poland also contains a regulation which confirms the possibility of searching for (and obtaining) protection in Poland by foreigners in the form of refugee status and asylum (art. 56). Art. 52, point 5, is also relevant to foreigners' situation, since it creates the right to permanent stay on the territory of the Republic of Poland for the people (foreigners) of Polish origin, which must be confirmed in accordance with the act.

The fundamental segment of the Polish law concerning foreigners are regulations stated in the Act of June 13 2003 on Aliens<sup>5</sup>, which determines the principles and conditions governing entry into, residence in and departure from the territory of the Republic of Poland by a foreigner, as well as authorities competent in these matters and the procedure to be observed (see: the Act of June 13 2003 on Aliens, art. 1). Issues concerning protection of foreigners were separated into the act of June 13 2003 on granting protection to aliens within the territory of the Republic of Poland<sup>6</sup> (according to art.1, the Act determines the principles and conditions of applying for such protection, granting it, authorities competent in these matters and, finally, the procedure for granting protection). The third element of the Polish law on foreigners is the Act of July 14 2006 on the entry in, residence in and exit from the territory of the Republic of Poland by the citizens of the European Union member countries and their family members<sup>7</sup>, which regulates, among others, such issues as the entry in, residence in and exit from the territory of the Republic of Poland by persons who enjoy the common freedom of flow of persons, as well as the relevant procedure (art.1). Finally, issues connected with foreigners' access to the labour market are mostly regulated in the Act of April 20 2004 on the Employment Promotion and Labour Market Institutions<sup>8</sup>.

Poland is one of few countries with a codified administrative procedure (stated in the act of June 14 1960, Code of Administrative Proceedings<sup>9</sup>). The Code applies to all the

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<sup>3</sup> In the case of these acts no significant amendments were introduced during last year. The only exception is the social security analyzed in section 2.7.

<sup>4</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 1997, No. 78, item 483 with changes.

<sup>5</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2011, No. 264, item 1573 with changes.

<sup>6</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2012, item 680.

<sup>7</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2006, No. 144, item 1043 with changes.

<sup>8</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2004, No. 99, item 1001 with changes.

<sup>9</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2000, No. 98, item 1071 with changes.

proceedings conducted on the basis of the above mentioned acts which are finished by an administrative decision (i.e., the vast majority of proceedings concerning foreigners), unless regulations of these acts are *lex specialis* with regard to the Code. The Code regulates, among others, such vital issues as the rules of explanatory proceedings, including admissibility of evidence, formal requirements of questioning, the rights of litigant, the rules of the appellate procedure, etc. It is absolutely worth mentioning that to judge this act from the point of view of the date of issuing (1960) and to believe its spirit corresponds to the former communist era, would be a misunderstanding. On the contrary, this act embodies contemporary European tendencies and is based on assumptions which are today called for as constitutive rights to good administration. In many cases the letter of this law provides the litigant with actual legal protection. As a consequence of continual extension of procedural rules in acts on foreigners, in those proceedings the Code is being applied to a lesser extent, which usually proves detrimental to the foreigner's rights.

## **2.2. Social context of Polish migration policy and the Polish law on foreigners and its basic features**

Polish migration policy and the Polish law on foreigners is formed in circumstances slightly different from those in most of EU countries, especially in 'the old 15'. In Poland illegal or massive immigration is not perceived as a serious social problem and, as a result, politicians' attention is focused on emigration from Poland and its wide socio-economic consequences. It is connected with a low percentage of foreigners in the Polish society and their high participation in the labour market. In Poland, the phenomenon of immigration is regarded as one of the many social processes and does not raise such controversy as in the Western or Southern Europe. In fact, immigration issues are not actually reflected in the public debate yet. In a broader context, comprising a non-political public discourse, formed by the media, non-governmental organizations, the Ombudsman and other opinion-forming circles, the issues concerning foreigners are usually publicized in an individual context in order to focus public attention on the situation of a specific person (controversial deportations of foreigners who stayed in Poland for several years, objections connected with groundless rejection of refugee status, alleged victims of human trade, etc.). Generally speaking, on the Polish political scene there is no political formation referring to anti-immigration rhetoric, although in recent years non-parliamentary extremist right-wing formations referring to the nationalist ideology have become more active. Their demands are not directly connected with immigration, however, but with an Euro-skeptical point of view and negation of the established order of the state, including the revision of state borders.

Due to a marginal interest in these issues on the political level, the forming, development and changes of migration policy and the law concerning foreigners are of an exceptionally technocratic character, i.e. real decisions regarding its content are made within administrative structures and in the legislative process do not usually raise great controversy after putting them forward at the Parliament. Important disputes concerning the letter of law are settled at the early stage of consulting projects within the administration. This state of affairs in the first place means that the law on foreigners is written under the influence of two major factors: 1. the need to solve problems identified in the administrative practical

experience (removing loopholes, changes in regulations causing interpretational discrepancies, etc.); 2. the need for implementation of new EU legislative acts, and, more and more frequently, the adjustment of the Polish law to the jurisdiction of the EU Court of Justice. Therefore, this law is becoming typically reactive, and it would be difficult to defend a hypothesis that subsequent changes in the law on foreigners result in creating integrated and well-defined social purposes.

Actions which, at least on the level of declarations, are supposed to change this picture, are worth mentioning. In 2012 the Council of Ministers accepted a document conceived by the Ministry of the Interior titled 'Migration Policy of Poland – the State of Play and Proposed Actions'<sup>10</sup>. Actually, the government's attitude towards this document is not unequivocal. It can be illustrated by the fact, that the project of a new act on aliens, also announced in 2012, is based on a vision not entirely consistent with the view presented in 'Migration Policy of Poland...'. Perhaps this situation will change in mid-2013, when an executive document concerning 'Migration Policy of Poland...', which is supposed to determine responsibilities of specific institutions, financing sources and the schedule of their realization, is due to be published.

As far as the implementation of the EU legal acts is concerned, accordance of the Polish law with the EU law can be evaluated as high. Generally, no discrepancy can be noted between the EU law in the sphere of immigration and the aspirations of Polish authorities. We can even state that strategic decisions carried out at the level of the EU fill in the gap resulting from the lack of political decisions at the level of the state. Incoherencies, if existent, usually either stem from legislative imperfections and are not deliberate, or result from delays in the process of creating the law. The Polish legislator is - justly - accused of copying directives into the Polish law without deep consideration and without accurate care for their consistence with other regulations (Jagielski 2005).

An exception here is the question of the state's responsibility to provide gratuitous legal aid to foreigners applying for international protection or to those who are litigants in proceedings concerning obligation to return. Due to the lack of financial means, the governments have been ignoring this duty determined by two directives – Poland does not provide foreigners with gratuitous legal aid in administrative proceedings.

We ought to pay attention to the structural problem of creating the law on foreigners, which is becoming distinctly visible. In most cases, it is the government who initiates the changes in the law concerning foreigners, and within the governmental structures a vital role is played by the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. At the executive level, dualism can also be observed – the administrative department responsible for entry into, residence in and departure from the territory of the Republic of Poland by foreigners is, as an institution, separate from the department responsible for foreigners' access to and presence in the labour market. To put it simply, the former is subordinate to the Ministry of the Interior, whereas the latter – to the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. This division is reflected by the law being created because the initiatives are not always consistent or coordinated. For example, we can mention the regulations of the Act of June 15 2012 on

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<sup>10</sup> Available at: [http://bip.msw.gov.pl/portal/bip/227/19529/Polityka\\_migracyjna\\_Polski.html](http://bip.msw.gov.pl/portal/bip/227/19529/Polityka_migracyjna_Polski.html)

the Effects of Hiring Foreigners Unlawfully Present in Polish Territory<sup>11</sup>. Terminological discrepancy between this act and other acts creating the law on foreigners, especially the Act on Aliens (and written by the structures of the Ministry of the Interior) is so broad, that even the definitions of the notion 'foreigner' vary substantially.

### **2.3. Entry, residence and exit – legal changes in years 2011-2012**

The most crucial event in recent years was passing of the Act of July 28 2011, legalizing the sojourn of certain aliens within the territory of the Republic of Poland and amending the act on granting protection to aliens in the territory of the Republic of Poland and the Act on Aliens<sup>12</sup>. The essence of this act was conducting a regularization action<sup>13</sup> for foreigners staying illegally in Poland. It was the third action of this type and definitely the most massive one. Originally, conducting it was conceived as a supplement to the new act on foreigners – an element of a positive image of new regulations. The decision to conduct it was also influenced by contemporary events – a notorious, widely publicized case of a Mongolian family, whose members were to be deported from Poland after a long-term stay in Poland. Prolonged preparatory work on the new act resulted in a conceptual change and conducting of the abolition irrespectively of passing of the designed act. The decision to conduct the regularization action independently was a consequence of activity of social subjects and the determination of the Ombudsman. The assumptions and the process of the abolition is discussed in another part of this study (see Chapter 6).

One of the most important changes was the introduction of the Act of April 27, 2012, amending the Foreigners Act and the Act on Promotion of Employment and Labor Market Institutions<sup>14</sup>. The act may be perceived as a legislative 'prosthesis', i.e. its passing aimed at preventing the consequences of delay in introducing the EU law. As a consequence of prolonged conceptual work on the new act on aliens, Poland did not implement on time the Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals ('return directive') or the Council Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-party nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment. By passing this act, Poland 'purchased' extra time for concerning the future image of its law on foreigners. The character of the amendments itself does not differ from the premises of the directives, it actually is their close copy. The most significant amendments include the introduction of a new foreigner status category – an owner of a 'blue card' – and greater emphasis on the primacy of voluntary departure from the territory of the Republic of Poland over compulsory return.

Many controversies arise from the draft of the new Act on Aliens (draft from 18 October 2012). It is supposed to go into life approximately in midyear 2013; however, this date may be delayed as a consequence of the scale of the controversies. The basic motive force of the amendment is the necessity of implementing EU legal acts. Difficulties of this

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<sup>11</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2012, item 769.

<sup>12</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2011, No. 191, item 1133 with changes.

<sup>13</sup>In Poland, the most popular term for regularization actions is 'abolition'.

<sup>14</sup>Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2012, No. 589.

project do not stem from implementation of fundamental changes referring to the material and legal status of foreigners; although numerous, these are peripheral and frequently determined by the EU law. The essence of the problem lies in the legislative technique used with regard to the project – it consists of 492 articles, hugely expanding the original legal matter. The project regulates many questions in a highly casuistic manner, e.g. the way of photographing a foreigner, detailed components of application forms concerning specific documents, the procedure observed by public servants, including the statement regarding the sort of data to be introduced into registries and the circumstances of doing so, when memoranda ought to be made, etc. This way of regulation may result from a low level of legislative technique; however, it appears to be a symptom of an even more serious problem, namely, that the project is supposed to serve as a means of solving various problems noted in administrative practice, and its casuistry is supposed to determine procedures comfortable from the point of view of the administration. Due to such paradigm of the act, future functionality of these regulations may appear uncertain. Even slight corrections to practice will, as a rule, depend on amendments to the act, and since it will not always be possible, the practice may become more rigid and flexible reactions to new phenomena may prove impossible.

Another source of anxiety, to some extent connected with the casuistic character of the project, is its procedural stratification, i.e. introduction of several new types of administrative proceedings, which is a consequence of resignation from a homogeneous model of action. So far, many proceedings concerning foreigners were characterized by homogeneity – in one proceeding several different issues were examined and decided upon. For example, currently, in a proceeding concerning granting a refugee status, the principles for granting a refugee status, providing subsidiary protection, tolerated stay permit<sup>15</sup>, and at the end deportation from the territory of the Republic of Poland are examined jointly, and in a proceeding concerning permission for stay for a defined period of time the decisive body may, in a negative decision, obligate a foreigner to depart from the territory of the Republic of Poland. The authors of the project infer from the return directive an inability (or practical difficulty) of combining a decision of return with decisions of a different type and anticipate a division of the current homogeneous proceedings into smaller parts. A formula of change which would be safe, in other words, a formula which would avert the danger of prolonged administrative proceedings, has not been found yet. These fears are grounded inasmuch as Poland is struggling with the problem of the efficiency of the administration system, including the immigration issues – infrastructural conditions of the administration and defective structure of employment are structural problems of the Polish administration. Multiplication of the number of interconnected proceedings calls for a question concerning realistic possibilities of the execution of new regulations by the present administration system and the quality (including punctuality) of conducted proceedings. It should be noted that the authors of the project are planning a cost-free implementation of the changes.

All the foreigner acts issued after the communist era, as well as their extensive amendments (passed in years: 1997, 2001, 2003, 2008) have a common feature, that is, the improvement of migration administration and ‘juggling’ with the responsibilities and competences of specific organs. This time the situation does not differ. The main idea is to

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<sup>15</sup> Both the institution of subsidiary protection and permit for tolerated stay are forms of subsidiary protection.

limit the role of voivodeship governors<sup>16</sup> in the domain of illegal immigration and to extend the role of the Border Guard. In the present system, the voivode was a decisive body, deciding upon the foreigner's status, whereas the Border Guard was chiefly an executive body. According to the project, the decision obligating a foreigner to return will be both decided upon and executed by the Border Guard, with no contribution from a voivode. Moreover, the Border Guard would also become a body of limited competences as far as the protection of foreigners is concerned (the so called tolerated stay). This factor is also a disturbing one, with regard to the question of real protection of the foreigner in the light of such a structure of competences.

#### **2.4. Changes with regard to foreigners' access to the labour market**

In the period discussed, no fundamental amendments have been introduced. The procedure of receiving a work permit is based upon the test of labour market, and, apart from this instrument, there operates a simplified and preferential system of declarations concerning intentions of hiring foreigners for nationals of selected countries (Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia)<sup>17</sup>. The Directive 2009/52/EC providing for minimum standards of sanctions and measures against employing illegally staying third-country nationals was implemented by passing a separate act on implications of hiring foreigners staying on the territory of the Republic of Poland against the law. The project is modeled on the above mentioned directive by introducing sanctions against employers violating the rights of foreign employees (as responsibility for offences, crimes, and providing basis to civil liability). What still remains problematic is the fact that the regulation refers only to the foreigners who are staying illegally, and the means of protection of the rights of foreign workers mentioned in the act paradoxically do not extend on the workers whose stay is legal, which makes them underprivileged from the point of view of the law. Such a situation creates doubts concerning the sense of the regulation.

The above described project of the act on aliens provides for changes in the sphere of hiring foreigners, including, among others, the implementation of the Directive 2011/98/EU on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State.

#### **2.5. Changes concerning protection of foreigners**

In years 2011-12 no significant amendments were introduced with regard to the protection of foreigners, which means sustaining the system formed under the reign of the act on providing foreigners with protection in the territory of the Republic of Poland. Amendments introduced

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<sup>16</sup>A voivode (province governor) is a regional body of governmental administration, local representative of the Council of Ministers. It is an organ of joint administration, competent for various matters of voivodeship (province) range, which are assigned to the governmental administration.

<sup>17</sup> Irrespectively, there is also a simplified procedure of granting work permits, i.e. one that does not assume the necessity of conducting a labour market test (it concerns e.g. all the foreigners whose legal residence in Poland has lasted for minimum of 3 years). Additionally, numerous categories of foreigners are exempt from the duty of work permit.

at that time were of purely technical nature. The only broader amendment was the introduction of the institution of resettlement and relocation, which aimed at creating a possibility of so-called *burden-sharing* among the EU countries. It is an outcome of the attempts of UNHCR and of the pressure exerted by the EU. In fact, however, this law has not been used in the Polish conditions yet, and Poland's lack of attractiveness as a target destination (especially from the point of view of the immigrants cumulated in the Southern Europe) makes the future scale of its application absolutely insignificant – perhaps there will be no cases of the application of these instruments.

The project of the act on aliens provides for overruling the regulations which require a deportation decision in the case of a negative decision concerning his or her application for the refugee status. Also, a debate regarding a new form of subsidiary protection, provided as protection determined by humanitarian arguments, is taking place. However, its final shape is not entirely clear.

## **2.6. Changes regarding naturalization**

In 2012 a new Act on Polish citizenship came into force. The most important changes in the new naturalization law include: shortening of the period of stay on the basis of the permanent residence permit required to acknowledgement as a Polish citizen from five to three years (or two years in the case of privileged categories of foreigners, such as spouses of Polish citizens, stateless persons, refugees and persons possessing permit to settle obtained in connection with their Polish origin), introducing a Polish language requirement for foreigners applying for acknowledgement as a Polish citizen, allowing dual or multiple citizenship and introducing the possibility of restoration of Polish citizenship. Especially a lack of the requirement to renounce citizenship of another country may have an impact on increased interest of immigrants in naturalization in Poland.

Another important change was the extension of the right to apply for acknowledgement as a Polish citizen to all foreigners. Previously, only stateless persons and persons with undetermined citizenship could benefit from this procedure. All others (besides spouses of Polish nationals entitled – under certain conditions – to a privileged marriage procedure) had to apply for naturalization to the President, who could refuse to grant Polish citizenship without any justification and whose decision could not be challenged in court. The procedure of acknowledgement as a Polish citizen is much less discretionary because it is regulated by the Administrative Procedure Code. It means, among others, that a foreigner has the right to appeal against the province governor's decision regarding naturalization as well as to challenge the decision in court. Moreover, the province governor may refuse to acknowledge a foreigner as a Polish citizen solely when he/she does not fulfill requirements stated by law or acquisition of Polish citizenship by this foreigner constitutes a threat to national defense, national security or protection of public security and order.

Summing up, under the new citizenship law there are four ways of acquiring Polish citizenship: by virtue of law (mainly on the basis of *ius sanguinis*, but in exceptional cases also on the basis of *ius soli*), acknowledgement procedure (with the province governor as a



competent authority), conferment procedure (with the President as a competent authority) and restoration procedure (with the Minister of Interior as a competent authority)<sup>18</sup>.

## **2.7. Changes regarding social security**

On 18 May 2012 representatives of the Polish and the Ukrainian government signed an agreement on social security and the administrative agreement on its application. The aim of the new regulations is to coordinate social security systems of Poland and Ukraine in order to eliminate negative social security consequences for Ukrainians working in Poland and Poles working in Ukraine. The agreement will concern not only employees but also self-employed persons and members of their families. The aim of this document is to prevent situations in which persons changing country of residence or work would be doubly insured (in Poland and in Ukraine—as e.g. in the case of posted workers) or not insured at all. Moreover, on the basis of this document it will be possible to aggregate insurance periods in both countries in order to determine the right to and the amount of financial social security benefits such as pensions, retirement pensions, sickness and maternity benefits, work injury benefits, unemployment benefits and funeral allowances. Under the new regulations it will be possible to receive these benefits on the territory of both countries. The agreement will enter into force three months after completion of the ratification process.

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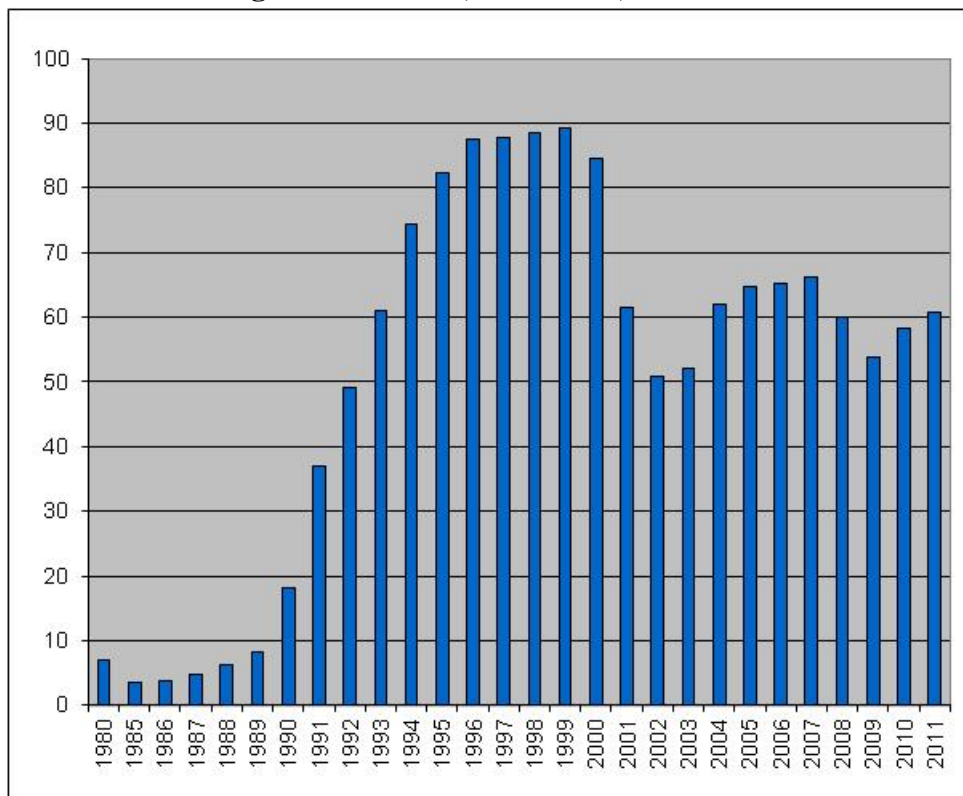
<sup>18</sup> Another procedure of acquiring Polish citizenship available only to people of Polish origin fulfilling certain conditions regarding, among others, place of residence, is the repatriation procedure, but it is regulated by the Act on repatriation which was not changed in 2012.

### 3. Trans-border mobility

This section is based on data published by the Border Guard and the Institute for Tourism which estimates and gathers information on arrivals of foreigners in Poland.

After the communist period, Poland experienced an outburst of trans-border mobility reaching its peak in 1995 with almost 90 million of arrivals of foreigners. This number dropped to about 51 million in 1998, mostly due to the so-called Russian crisis and accompanying economic downturn in Poland, as well as due to coming into force of the new Act on foreigners, significantly tightening entry conditions and border controls. However, since the Polish accession into the European Union in 2004, the number of arrivals has remained relatively stable at the level of 50-60 million annually (see Table 14-16 in the Annex and Figure 4). In 2011, a 4% increase was registered as compared to the previous year (60,7 million border crossings).

**Figure 4. Arrival of foreigners to Poland, 1980-2011, in million**



Source: The Border Guard and the Institute for Tourism.

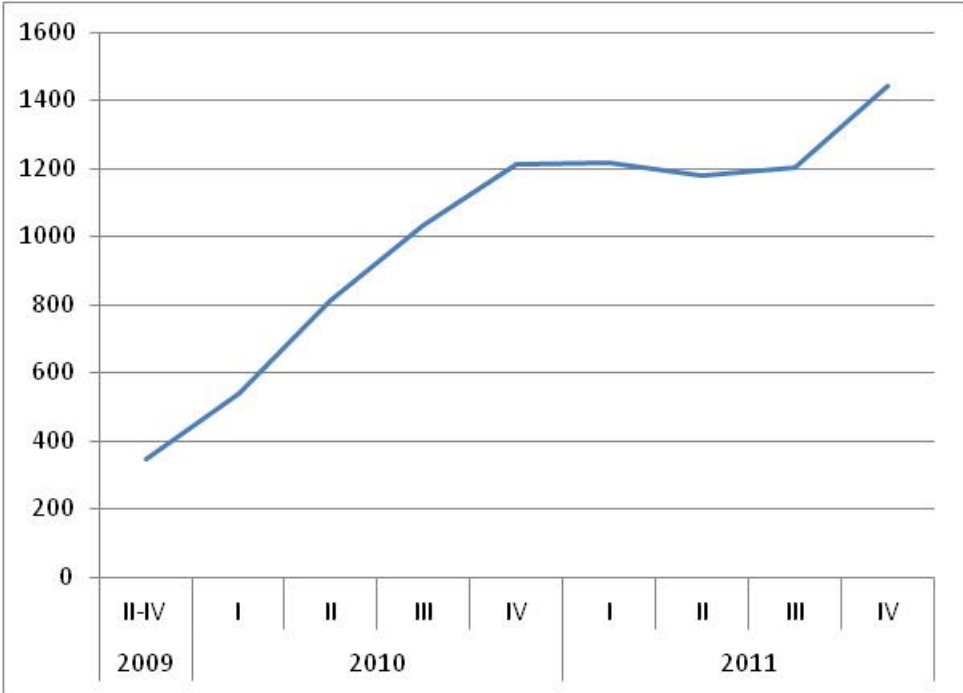
Arrivals to Poland have been in vast majority undertaken by the European Union citizens. In 2011, 80% (48,285 thousand) of arrivals constituted those persecuted by the citizens of EU member states: 47% citizens of the 'old 15', and 33% of the new member states. It is self-evident that the biggest numbers of arrivals to Poland have been noted in case of citizens of neighboring countries in the Schengen area (74% of the total): in 2011, 42% of entries referred to German citizens, 18% to Czech citizens, 9% to Slovak citizens, 4% to Lithuanian citizens. As for the foreigners from outside of the Schengen area, the citizens of

Ukraine (10% of arrivals) constituted the major group (citizens of Belarus – 6%, of Russia – 3%).

In 2011, the Border Guard refused to let in 21,657 foreigners (in comparison to 26,941 in 2009 and 23,758 in 2010), mostly due to lack of valid visa or other proper documents. This concerned mostly the citizens of Ukraine (10,566 persons), followed by citizens of Belarus (4,863), Russia (2,697) and Georgia (2,321). In 2011, 2,502 persons have been apprehended while crossing or attempting to cross the border illegally (in 2009 – 3,581, in 2010 – 2,349). The apprehensions take place slightly more often at the external EU border (55%), as compared to the internal border (45%). Most of apprehension referred to non-EU citizens (91%). The most numerous group constituted the citizens of Ukraine (802 persons, 46%).

The government of Poland and governments of neighboring countries not belonging to the Schengen area signed local border traffic (LBT) agreements facilitating entrance to Poland by the citizens of Ukraine, Russia (exclusively the inhabitants of Kaliningrad region) and Belarus. The Agreement with Ukraine has been in force since 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2009 and concerns the inhabitants of a strip located up to 50 km from the border. It is worth mentioning that the Agreement is of great importance for the Ukrainian citizens, as the Polish citizens are allowed to a non-visa stay in Ukraine lasting up to 90 days. The Agreement with Russia has been in force from July 2012 and concerns the inhabitants of the border regions. The citizens of Poland and the inhabitants of Kaliningrad region are allowed to stay in the neighboring country up to 30 days without any visa requirement. The Agreement with Belarus was not validated by the Belarusian side yet.

**Figure 5. The number of border crossings by Ukrainian citizens within the local border traffic, 2009-2011, in thousand**



Source: CSO 2012b.

The following numbers concern exclusively Ukrainian citizens crossing the Polish border on the basis of the Agreement on the Local Border Traffic. In 2011, 5 million border

crossings were registered (see Figure 5), which was a 40% increase as compared to the previous year. Consequently, 36% of crossings made by foreigners at the Polish-Ukrainian border took place within the local border mobility. The majority of foreigners crossed the border a few times a week (74%), therein 8% crossed the border every day (CSO 2012b). The Agreement significantly intensified the trans-border mobility and, consequently, increased the scale of expenses spent by the Ukrainian citizens in Poland. The expenses of Ukrainian citizens in 2011 were estimated at 1,2 billion Polish zloty (PLN), a 69% increase as compared to the previous year. That was approximately 484 PLN per Ukrainian citizen involved in the trans-border mobility. The expenses were spent mostly on construction materials, household appliances, audio-visual equipment and motor spare parts. Therefore, the Agreement on the Local Border Traffic influenced the dynamics of the number of new enterprises registered in the Polish border region as compared to the regions in Poland close to Russia and Belarus.

## 4. Migration from Poland

### 4.1. Data on migration from Poland – a comment

In the previous report we pointed to significant problems with measurement of migration from Poland (with regard to both flows as well as stocks of migrants). These problems result from many reasons, including type of migration (majority of population movements constitute short-term of circular mobility which commonly escapes all traditional statistical register methods) and migration regime (difficulties with statistical control over flows under the free mobility regime as introduced in 2004). The basic and official statistical source on international migration from (and into) Poland remains the central population register (so-called PESEL) recording entries of immigrants and exits of emigrants. This source, however, is problematic due to definitions applied: immigrants are defined as persons who have arrived from abroad and have been registered as permanent residents in any basic administrative unit of Poland; emigrants are defined as persons who moved with an intention to settle abroad and delisted themselves from their permanent place of residence in Poland (see also section 4.2 and Tables 1-3 in the Annex). Due to the fact that the number of those who de-register themselves from the administrative unit in Poland is very low, there is a sizeable number of persons who are counted as permanent residents of Poland even if they have *de facto* ceased to live in Poland (i.e. who are *de iure* residents and *de facto* migrants).

For this particular reason, official data on registered migration from Poland are not reliable and are supplemented by other sources of information. The estimate of the stock of permanent residents of Poland staying temporarily abroad (i.e. *de facto* migrants) may serve as a good example. Since 2006, this estimate is published on annual basis by the Central Statistical Office (CSO 2012c – see also section 4.4 and Table 13 in the Annex)<sup>19</sup>. In this case, a category of ‘temporary migrants’ is being used to denote permanent residents of Poland who have stayed in a foreign country for longer than three months. The second unique feature of the Polish statistics on migration is the reference to the Polish LFS (see also section 4.5 and Table 12 in the Annex). This data is based on large samples (over 50 thousand households) and includes information on persons aged 15+ years who are still treated as members of households residing in Poland. LFS data on migration has some commonly acknowledged weaknesses (e.g. the sample of migrants does not include migrants who moved abroad accompanied by whole households or migrants staying abroad shorter than 3 months) and for this reason the Central Statistical Office holds a position that data on Poles staying temporarily abroad are not representative for the total population and should be analyzed and interpreted with caution. Therefore, LFS data cannot provide information on the real scale of migration, however – as proven by statistical tests conducted by the CMR – may serve as a very good data source on migration dynamics and its structural features<sup>20</sup>.

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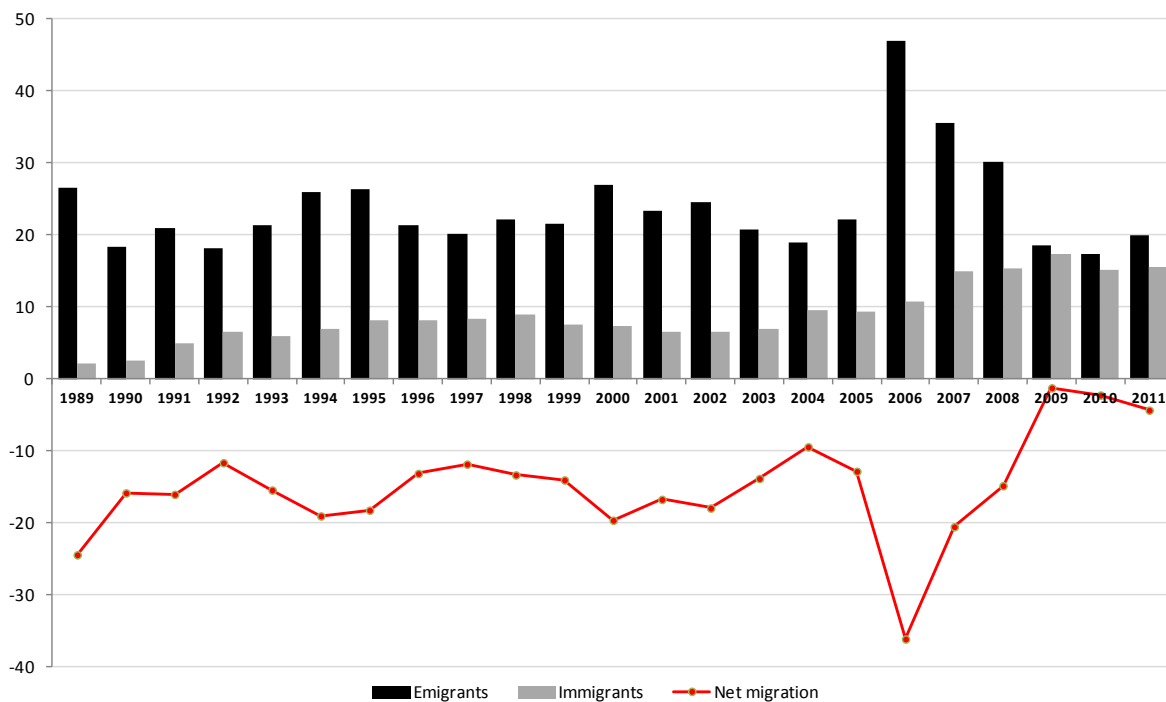
<sup>19</sup> The stock of temporary Polish migrants (defined above) is being estimated on the basis of: the 2002 and 2011 population census data (basis for the estimation), data on officially registered flows (referring to permanent migrants), data of quarterly Labour Force Survey, and statistics on Polish migrants in destination countries, including administrative data on the number of work registrations, insurance registrations, residence permits, work permits as well as LFS data. Importantly, the estimates for 2009 and 2010 have been re-estimated based on the 2011 population census data.

<sup>20</sup> See 2009 SOPEMI Report for Poland including an extensive part on selectivity of Polish migration based on the LFS data.

## 4.2. Registered flows

According to the Central Population Register, in 2011 a change in previously noted trends was observed. Contrary to the previous four years when a decline in number of emigrants was noted, in 2011 a slight increase in officially registered number of international emigrants was recorded: the number of emigrants amounted to almost 20 thousand, i.e. was by 14% higher than in 2010 (see Figure 6 and Table 2 in the Annex). Observed changes are very low in absolute terms but they may reflect more serious changes related to (resulted from) the dynamics of economic downturn in Europe.

**Figure 6. Officially registered international migration from and into Poland, 1989 – 2011 (in thousand)**



Source: Table 2 in the Annex.

As shown above, the number of officially registered immigrants to Poland remains relatively stable over the last five years. In 2011 the number of immigrants was as high as 15.5 thousand and this meant a slight increase as compared to 2010 (merely 2%). Due to the increase in scale of officially registered emigration in 2011, the officially registered net outflow was as high as 4.3 thousand and this was the highest value of net emigration observed since 2008. Along with a slowly increasing scale of immigration, the net outflow was much lower than in the first years after the EU enlargement (with 2006 as a peak year of the registered outflow).

Polish registered emigration is feminized. Similarly to previous years, in 2011 the share of women among all emigrants was as high as 54%. Feminization of migration is visible particularly in case of several destinations, including Germany and Italy (see Table 5 in the Annex).

Permanent emigrants from Poland are relatively young. In 2011, persons aged between 20 and 39 years constituted 42.5% of migrating men and 49.2% of women. In the of both sexes, relatively high were also the shares of persons aged below 14, i.e. accompanying dependents which amounted to 16.6% and 13.2%, respectively. These shares are growing over the last few years, which may be a sign of a tendency to transform temporary migration into settlement. Polish permanent migrants are mostly single, but the share of married persons is almost as high in case of men or even higher in case of women (see Table 8 in the Annex).

The structure of emigrants by the province of origin in Poland is very stable over time, which may indicate a deeply rooted social process, probably structurally different from temporary migration (see Table 6 in the Annex). In 2011, the three most important sending regions were: Śląskie region (*voivodeship*) (21% of all permanent migrants), Opolskie region (12%) and Dolnośląskie region (11%). These three regions constitute together around 44% of all permanent migrants and persons originating from these areas represent mostly the ‘traditional’ pattern of Polish migration based mainly on ethnic or kinship linkages with abroad, with Germany as the leading destination.

European destinations dominate among the destinations of Polish permanent migrants (see Table 5 in the Annex). In 2011, the share of those choosing European countries as a destination was as high as 86%, and almost 83% of all permanent migrants moved to the EU15 countries. This shows a clear concentration of Polish migration – both permanent as well as temporary – since the EU enlargement. The list of main destination countries remains unchanged since a few years. The most important target country is still Germany, which in 2011 hosted around 39% of all registered emigrants (14% increase noted as compared to 2010). The second important destination was the United Kingdom (22% of all emigrants, 28% increase noted) followed by the United States (9%, 2% increase noted), the Netherlands (4%, 32% decrease noted), Ireland (4%, 26% increase noted) and Italy (3%, 4% decrease noted). In case of most Western European destinations, a slight increase in the number of migrants was registered which may suggest that migrants managed to adapt to changes resulting from the economic crisis.

### **4.3. Stock of Polish migrants staying temporarily abroad according to the 2011 population census**

As commented in section 4.1, Polish registers and administration data do not provide a reliable statistical picture of recent outflow. This was one of the reasons why the issue of migration was taken very seriously while preparing the 2011 population census. Unfortunately, an attempt to assess the scale and structure of post-accession migration from and into Poland (the previous census was completed in 2002) was successful to a limited extent only and this was due to the methodology applied<sup>21</sup>.

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<sup>21</sup> The 2011 population census was conducted between 1<sup>st</sup> of April and 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2011 (registers as for 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2011) and encompassed all permanent residents of Poland (staying in Poland or staying temporarily abroad) and persons staying temporarily in the country. Contrary to previous (traditional) censuses, in case of the 2011 population census mixed methods of obtaining data were adopted. Channels of information included: administrative sources (registers), an internet-based self-enumeration and representative survey (around 20% of the total population) (CSO 2012a). It still remains unknown whether a change in methodology might influence the results obtained. So far, outcomes presented are treated as preliminary only. Full and final results are to be published in the first half of 2013.

According to the population census, in March 2011 the number of permanent residents of Poland staying abroad amounted to around 2 million persons (5.2% of the total population). Out of this number, around 1.5 million constituted persons who were staying abroad for 12 months or longer. These outcomes are clearly consistent with previously presented estimates documenting massive outflow in the post-2004 period. According to the previous census, in 2002 the number of emigrants amounted to 786 thousand persons (2% of the total population), and a majority of them (626 thousand) constituted long-term migrants. This means that the stock of migrants increased by over 1.2 million, or 154%! (see Table 9 in the Annex).

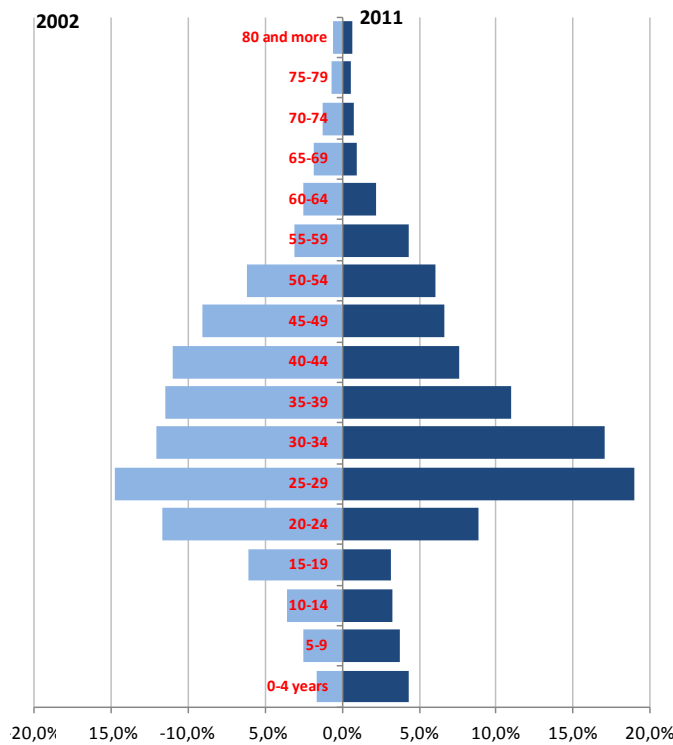
Based on the 2011 census data, it is possible to assess the following structural features of recent migration from Poland (see also Tables 9-11 in the Annex):

- Polish migrants are almost equally distributed with respect to gender: in 2011, women constituted roughly 51% of all emigrants (as compared to 54% in 2002); there are significant differences in gender ratios in case of particular destinations (e.g. migration to Southern European countries is strongly feminized – in case of Italy the share of women was as high as 75%);
- recent Polish migrants are generally young, with around 83% of persons at productive age. Figure 7 compares the age structures of 2002 and 2011 emigrants. It is clearly visible that Polish migrants in the post-accession period are much younger than before: the difference in case of the age brackets 25-29 and 30-34 amounted to 4.2 pp. and 5 pp. respectively; around 70% of Polish emigrants constitute persons originated from urban areas (i.e. there is a slight positive selection in favor of urban areas considering the share of the total population living there);
- most of Polish migrants declared themselves as labour migrants (73%); this category was followed by migration driven by family related reasons (16%) and educational migration (6% only);
- post-enlargement migration re-defined the structure of destination countries (see Figure 8). In 2011, the largest number of migrants was recorded in the United Kingdom (30% of all migrants), Germany (22%) and USA (12%) followed by Ireland, Italy and the Netherlands. In 2002 the structure of destinations was significantly different with two main destinations: Germany (around 37% of all migrants) and USA (20%). The share of those staying in the United Kingdom was lower than 4%. Generally, in the post-enlargement period a spectacular increase in number of migrants was noted in case of most EU15 countries, particularly in the United Kingdom, Ireland, the Netherlands and Norway;
- with respect to the region of origin, the most important migrant sending regions included: in absolute terms – Śląskie, Małopolskie, Dolnośląskie and Podkarpackie and in relative terms (intensity of outflow as compared to number of inhabitants) – Podlaskie and Podkarpackie (see Figure 9). Between 2002 and 2011 changes in scale of migration were noted in case of all regions. The magnitude of these changes was different, however. The biggest increases in the number of emigrants were noted in case of those regions which have not been the most important sending regions in 2002 (Kujawskie, Pomorskie, Lubelskie, Warmińsko-Mazurskie, Wielkopolskie and



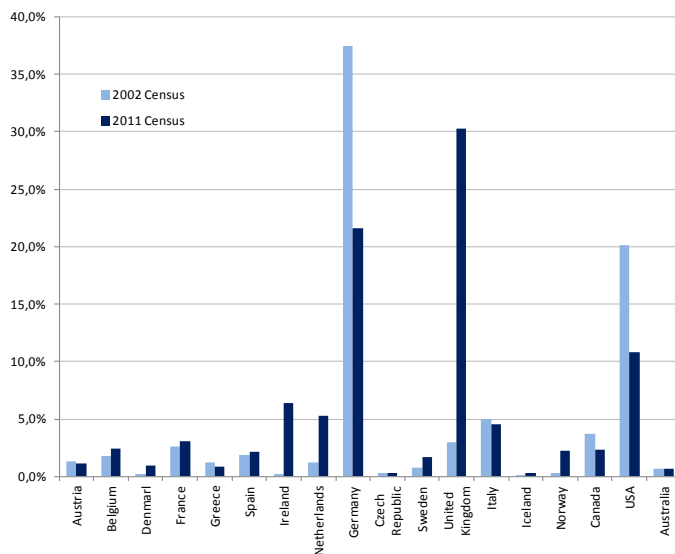
Zachodniopomorskie). As a consequence, recent migrants are more equally distributed (regionally) than before. However, there is still a domination visible of a few regions representing both the ‘traditional’ (Śląskie, Małopolskie, Opolskie) as well as ‘new’ (Podkarpackie, Podlaskie) migration patterns.

**Figure 7. Age structure of Polish migrants (permanent residents of Poland staying temporarily abroad), 2002 and 2011 (census data), in %**



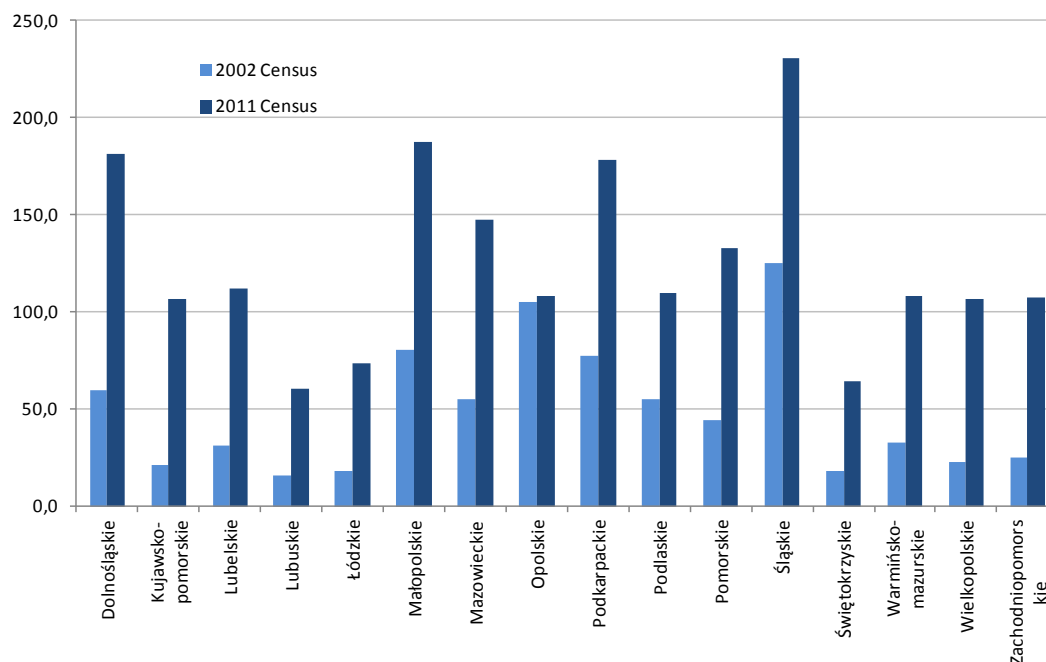
Source: Own elaboration based on CSO 2012a.

**Figure 8. Main destination countries of Polish migrants (permanent residents of Poland staying temporarily abroad), 2002 and 2011 (census data), in %**



Source: Own elaboration based on CSO 2012a.

**Figure 9. Polish migrants (permanent residents of Poland staying temporarily abroad) by region of origin, 2002 and 2011 (census data), in thousands**



Source: Own elaboration based on CSO 2012a.

#### 4.4. Stock of Polish migrants staying temporarily abroad according to the CSO estimate

Since 2006, the estimates presented by the Central Statistical Office of Poland serve as the most reliable and accurate data on emigrants' stock. Table 2 (as well as Table 13 in the Annex) presents the outcomes of the most recent estimate published in September 2012 (CSO 2012c).

As commented in previous SOPEMI reports, the data shows the dynamics of the post-enlargement migration. Within just three years – between 2004 and the end of 2007 – the number of temporary Polish migrants increased by almost 1.5 million and reached 2.3 million (or 6.6% of the total population). The 2007 was the peak year of Polish recent migration and since then a gradual decline in the number of Polish migrants was noted (at least until 2011)<sup>22</sup>. According to the recent estimates, between 2008 and 2010 a gradual decrease in scale of migration was noted, mostly as a result of economic downturn in the most important destination countries (particularly in the United Kingdom and Ireland). Percentage changes in the stock of migrants amounted to 2.6, 5.0 and 4.8 in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively. The largest scale of decline was noted in case of Ireland (in 2009), the Netherlands (in 2009) and Spain (in 2010 and 2011).

<sup>22</sup> It is important to note, however, that the methodology of presented estimates varied. Originally, the basis for all calculations were census data obtained in 2002. Once the 2011 population census data were (partially) published some of the estimates have been re-estimated: this refers to the data for 2009, 2010 and obviously 2011. The usage of the up-dated census data makes these particular information more reliable, on the one hand but on the other there are not fully comparable with previous years.

**Table 2. Polish citizens staying abroad for longer than two months (three months since 2007) (in thousand) and percentage changes as compared with previous year, 2002-2011**

Destination	Population census								
	May 2002	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007*	2008*	2009*	2010*	2011*
	<i>In thousand</i>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>1 000</b>	<b>1 450</b>	<b>1 950</b>	<b>2 270</b>	<b>2 210</b>	<b>2 100</b>	<b>2 000</b>	<b>2 060</b>
Europe	461	770	1 200	1 610	1 925	1 887	1 765	1 685	1 754
EU27	451	750	1 170	1 550	1 860	1 820	1 690	1 607	1 670
Austria	11	15	25	34	39	40	36	29	25
Belgium	14	13	21	28	31	33	34	45	47
Cyprus	.	.	.	.	4	4	3	3	3
Czech Rep.	.	.	.	.	8	10	9	7	7
Denmark	.	.	.	.	17	19	20	19	21
Finland	0,3	0,4	0,7	3	4	4	3	3	2
France	21	30	44	49	55	56	60	60	62
Germany	294	385	430	450	490	490	465	440	470
Greece	10	13	17	20	20	20	16	16	15
Ireland	2	15	76	120	200	180	140	131	120
Italy	39	59	70	85	87	88	88	92	94
Netherlands	10	23	43	55	98	108	98	92	95
Portugal	0,3	0,5	0,6	1	1	1	1	1	1
Spain	14	26	37	44	80	83	84	48	40
Sweden	6	11	17	25	27	29	31	33	36
United Kingdom	24	150	340	580	690	650	595	580	625
Other European	10	20	30	60	65	67	75	78	85
Norway					36	38	45	50	56
	<i>Percentage change as compared with previous year**</i>								
<b>Total</b>	.		<b>45.0</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-5.0</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Europe	.		55.8	34.2	19.6	-2.0	-6.5	-4.5	4.1
EU27	.		56.0	32.5	20.0	-2.2	-7.1	-4.9	3.9
Austria	.		66.7	36.0	14.7	2.6	-10.0	-19.4	-13.8
Belgium	.		61.5	33.3	10.7	6.5	3.0	32.4	4.4
Cyprus	.		.	.	.	0.0	-25.0	0.0	0.0
Czech Rep.	.		.	.	.	25.0	-10.0	-22.2	0.0
Denmark	.		.	.	.	11.8	5.3	-5.0	10.5
Finland	.		75.0	328.6	33.3	0.0	-25.0	0.0	-33.3
France	.		46.7	11.4	12.2	1.8	7.1	0.0	3.3
Germany	.		11.7	4.7	8.9	0.0	-5.1	-5.4	6.8
Greece	.		30.8	17.6	0.0	0.0	-20.0	0.0	-6.3
Ireland	.		406.7	57.9	66.7	-10.0	-22.2	-6.4	-8.4
Italy	.		18.6	21.4	2.4	1.1	0.0	4.5	2.2
Netherlands	.		87.0	27.9	78.2	10.2	-9.3	-6.1	3.3
Portugal	.		20.0	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spain	.		42.3	18.9	81.8	3.8	1.2	-42.9	-16.7
Sweden	.		54.5	47.1	8.0	7.4	6.9	6.5	9.1
United Kingdom	.		126.7	70.6	19.0	-5.8	-8.5	-2.5	7.8
Other European	.		50.0	100.0	8.3	3.1	11.9	4.0	9.0
Norway	.		.	.	.	5.6	18.4	11.1	12.0

\* as for the end of a given year, \*\* 2002-2004 changes not reported due to lack of full data comparability

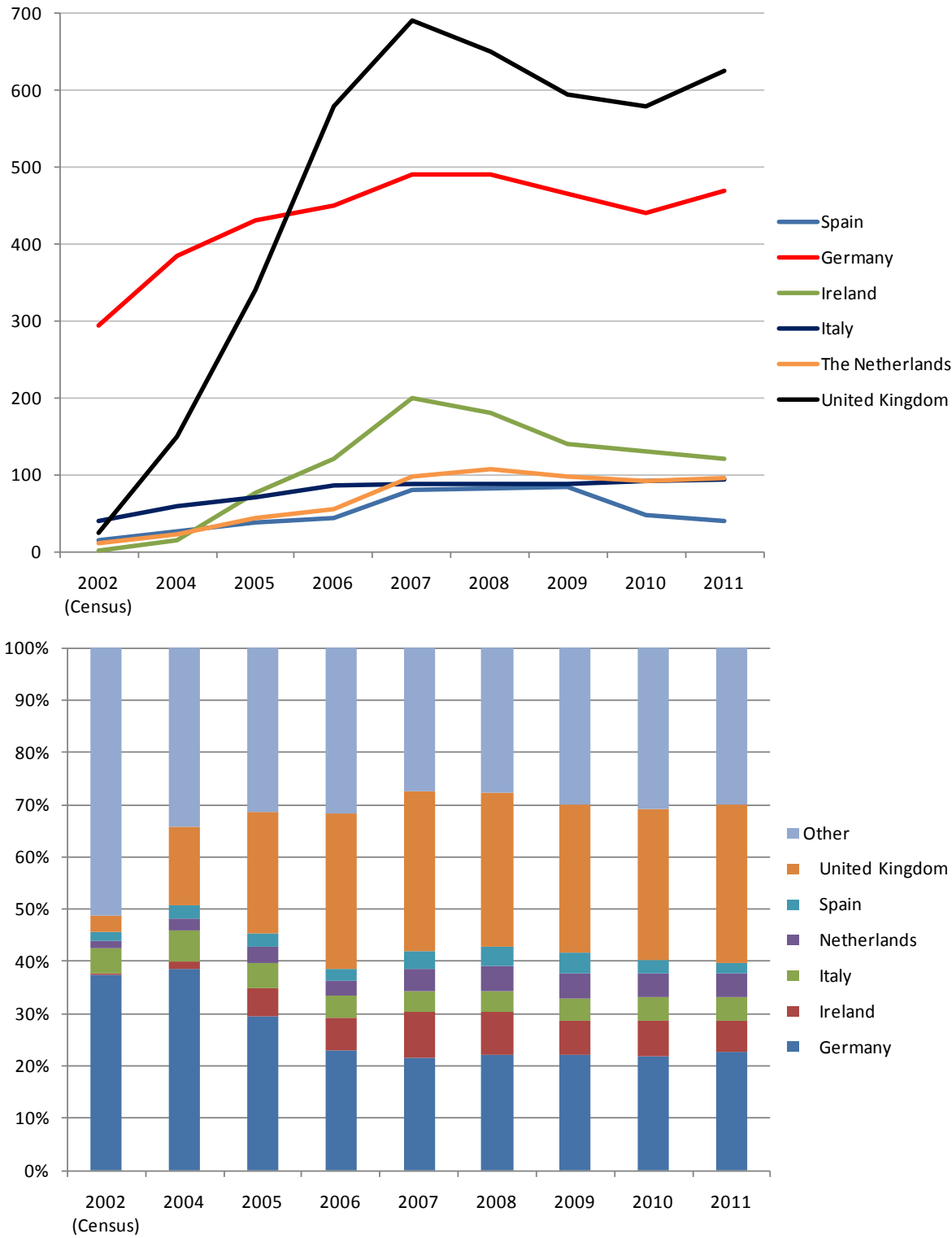
Source: CSO 2012c.

The most recent estimate for 2011 shows a possible change in previously observed trends: as for the end of 2011, the stock of Polish migrants staying temporarily abroad was as high as 2.06 million which meant a slight increase as compared with 2010 (roughly 60 thousand or 3%). This change was mostly due to an increase in the number of emigrants in the major emigration countries such as Germany (6.8%) or the United Kingdom (7.8%) but also in the non-EU destinations. The last point remains quite controversial due to the fact that Central Statistical Office does not report the estimates for such countries as the USA or Australia. Thus, it is unclear whether the data presented are fully reliable.

Despite the economic downturn, in most of the destinations the number of temporary migrants staying abroad remains relatively high and oscillates around 2 million in total. The majority of Polish migrants – as shown by other sources as well – reside in the EU-27 countries (81% of the total). As shown below (Figure 10 and Table 13 in the Annex) after dramatic changes in the first post-accession period the structure of destination countries remains relatively stable.

Since 2006, the most important destination country is the United Kingdom which in 2011 was a target for hosting over 30% of all temporary migrants. The United Kingdom is followed by Germany which noted a slight increase in number of migrants from Poland since the introduction of free mobility regime (May 2011) – at the end of 2011 the share of Germany in the total stock of Polish migrants was as high as 23%. Next destinations are far less important and include: Ireland (5.8% of all migrants), the Netherlands (4.6%) and Italy (4.6%). As indicated above (see Table 2) the data for 2011 shows a significant decrease in number of migrants residing in a few countries suffering severe economic crisis, particularly in Spain, Ireland and Greece.

**Figure 10. Stock of Polish migrants staying temporarily abroad by destination country\*, in thousand – upper panel and as percent of the total – lower panel**

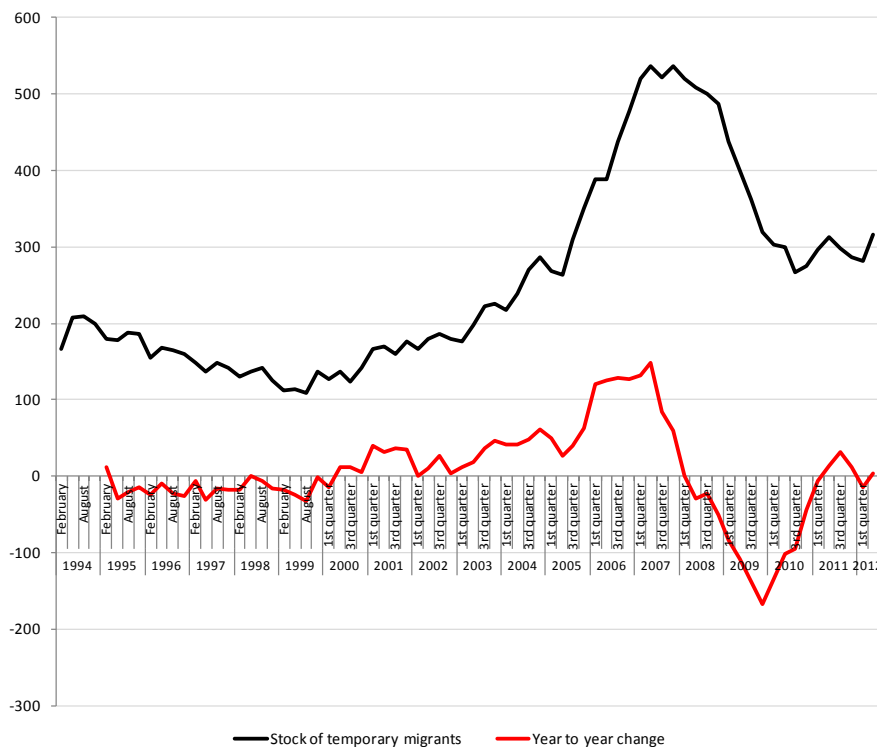


\* as for the end of a given year  
 Source: CSO 2012c.

#### 4.5. Migration from Poland according to the LFS

Due to the very nature of recent migration from Poland it is important to take into consideration not only officially presented data, but also all kinds of data sources allowing the assessment of the dynamics and temporal dimension of the process. As noted in section 4.1, the LFS data is not fully representative with regard to the scale of migration but it may be used as a relatively reliable and useful source of information on the dynamics and structural features of temporary migration from Poland. Figure 11 presents the data on Polish migrants staying temporarily abroad for longer than 3 months (see also Table 12 in Annex).

**Figure 11. Stock of Polish migrants staying temporarily abroad according to Labour Force Survey, 1994-2012 (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter) – absolute numbers (in thousand) and year-to-year change**



Source: Own elaboration based on the LFS data.

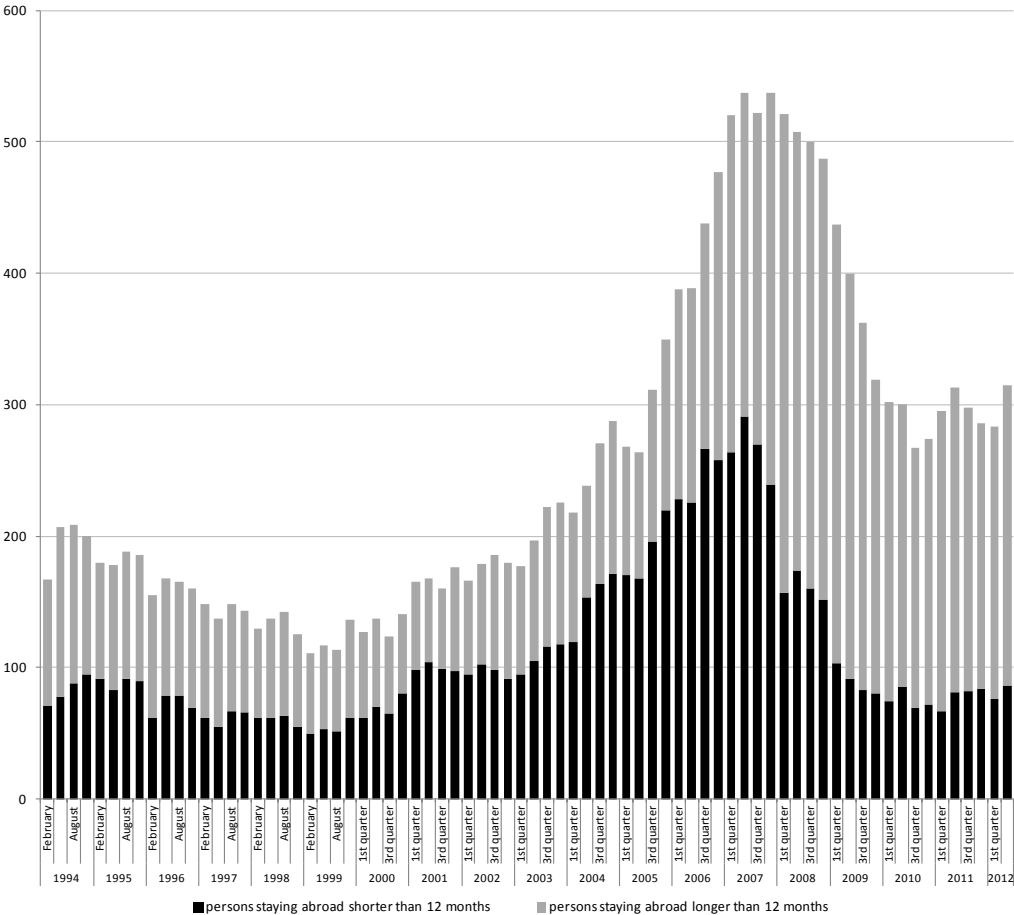
On the basis of the LFS data we can conclude following:

The first three post-enlargement years saw a spectacular increase in scale of migration from Poland; since then (specifically since 2007), a gradual decline in the number of persons indicated as staying temporarily abroad was noted – this trend continued until last quarters of 2009. However, since early 2010, a slight increase in the number of temporary migrants was recorded: it was particularly well visible in late 2011 and early 2012. The changes observed are relatively small (as compared to flows observed in 2004-2007 period) and it would be risky to describe them in terms of new trend in migratory behavior, but they can be related to changes in the economic situation in Europe (particularly, improvements in the UK and Ireland).

Most Polish migrants staying abroad are persons who take up employment while staying abroad: according to the LFS data, around 90% of the recent migrants from Poland can be described as labour migrants and this is one of the specific features of Polish mobility.

What also may be noted is that temporary migration from Poland is characterized by a relatively large share of men, who constitute over 60% of all migrants since the EU enlargement. During the last two years this share was on continues rise and reached 66% in the first half of 2012. Interestingly, the highest share of male migrants was noted in case of those staying abroad for 12 months and longer. Additionally, it is important to acknowledge that the pattern presented above is drastically different from the pattern indicated by the register data on permanent migration from Poland which points both to the different nature of these two processes as well as to deficiencies in data quality.

**Figure 12. Stock of Polish migrants staying temporarily abroad according to Labour Force Survey, 1994-2012 (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter), in thousand**



Source: Own elaboration based on LFS data.

One of the main strengths of the LFS data is the opportunity to assess the temporary character of migration. In fact, one of the most interesting features of the recent migration from Poland is its temporary character (Figure 12 and Table 13 in the Annex): on the one hand, the spectacular increase in scale of migration noted in the period 2004-2007 was mostly due to rising numbers of short-term migrants (3-12 months), on the other hand, this characteristics started to change already in 2008. Since then, a steady decline in the number of

short-term migrants is noted which is accompanied by a relatively stable – but rising – number of long-term migrants. In the first half of 2012 (first two quarters), the number of persons staying abroad for longer than 12 months amounted to around 210-230 thousand and constituted around 73% of all persons staying temporarily abroad. Since 2009, the scale of short-term mobility (3-12 months) is close to the numbers observed prior to the EU-enlargement while long-term migration figures are becoming higher and higher (in 2004, the share of long-term migrants was as high as 45-50%).

The low dynamics of short-term migration and stabilization in the stocks of long-term migrants, as indicated by the LFS data, may suggest that Poland is already in a ‘late’ or ‘mature’ phase of post-accession migration. This phase – as indicated in previous reports – can be described with reference to two effects: return migration of those who fulfilled their expectations while staying abroad or were forced to return due to the economic situation at destination and a gradual process of settlement of those whose links to the country of recent residence are becoming stronger. There are no clear signs visible how Polish migrants are (and will be) reacting to economic changes in Europe.



## **5. Immigrants in Poland**

### **5.1. Flows of foreigners according to the Central Population Register**

The Central Population Register provides information on persons (both Polish nationals and foreign nationals) who came from abroad and registered for a permanent stay in Poland. Thus, this data source concerns not only immigrants, but also Polish nationals.

In general, during the period 2001-2010, 112.8 thousand persons registered in Poland for a permanent stay (Table 1 in the Annex). In 2011, the number of permanent immigrants was 15,524 persons, which was by 2% more than in the previous year (Table 16 in the Annex). The great majority arrived from the countries of European Union (11,104 persons, 72%), mostly the 'old-15' member states (10,905 persons, 70%). Just like in the previous year, the most important source countries were the United Kingdom (4,378), Germany (2,655), the United States (1,568 persons) and Ireland (1,130). Since these are also the main destinations for Polish emigrants, this data seems to include information rather about the return migration or migration of persons with Polish descent than the inflow of foreigners. Unfortunately, the PESEL register does not distinguish nationals of Poland from foreigners and further conclusions would only be speculation.

The proportion of women in the inflow remains stable in the recent years; in 2010 it was 41% and in 2011 43% (Table 16 in the Annex). Persons registering in Poland for a permanent stay are relatively young, with a significant share of those aged less than 30 years (59%, Table 18 in the Annex). Similarly to the previous years, in 2011 there was a large proportion of small children, aged under 4 (28%, while 29% in 2010 and 22% in 2009). The structure of provinces of destination in Poland remains relatively stable during the last few years (Table 17 in the Annex): the most important are Śląskie (14% of immigrants in 2011), Małopolskie (13%), Dolnośląskie (11%), Mazowieckie and Pomorskie (9% each).

### **5.2. Stocks of foreigners and temporary migrants**

As for now, preliminary data concerning foreign-born persons and non-Polish citizens living in Poland are available on the grounds of the population census which was conducted in Poland in 2011 (see section 4.3 for details).

In the 2011 population census, foreign-born persons were asked to indicate the country of birth according to the current country borders. Considering the fact that Poland changed its territory significantly after and in the aftermath of WW2, this category of 'immigrants' contains thousands of Polish citizens, born in Poland before 1939. Therefore, this category by no means should be recognized as a group of immigrants. Only 7% of this category of foreign-born persons do not hold Polish citizenship. Nevertheless, the population census revealed that 674.9 thousands of permanent residents of Poland (1.8%) were born abroad, while for 16.2 thousand (0.04%) the country of births could not be defined<sup>23</sup>. As for countries of origin, the major groups of foreign-born persons originate in today's Ukraine (227.5

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<sup>23</sup> This concerns mostly homeless persons for whom only elementary information was gathered. It is assumed that most of them were born in Poland.

thousand), Germany (84 thousand), Belarus (83.6 thousand) and Lithuania (55.6 thousand). The great majority of those groups is now aged above 60, that is 64 and more, which confirms that this is the group of Polish citizens born either in the pre-war Poland or abroad, but relocated or displaced during the WW2. Interestingly enough, a group of persons born in the United Kingdom (38 thousand) and Ireland (8,4 thousand) should be mentioned, as these are mostly children aged under 5. According to the Central Statistical Office, many of these children – descendants of Polish emigrants – are registered in Poland for a permanent stay, but remain abroad.

The category of foreign citizens in the Population Census does not include temporary migrants. Thus, the overall number of immigrants in Poland is larger than the numbers presented below. According to the 2011 Population Census, out of 38,512 thousand inhabitants of Poland, 36,189 (94%) held single (Polish) citizenship; 327.4 thousand (0.9%) persons held dual (Polish and foreign) citizenship, while 55.4 thousand (0.1%) were citizens of other countries<sup>24</sup>. Out of these 55.4 thousand persons holding non-Polish citizenship only, 13.4 thousand were citizens of Ukraine (24%), 5.2 thousand citizens of Germany (9%), 4.2 thousand citizens of Russia (8%), 3.8 thousand citizens of Belarus (7%) and 2.6 thousand citizens of Vietnam (4.7%). For 8.8 thousand persons, foreign citizenship was not defined.

Almost 85% of foreign citizens were born abroad. Not surprisingly, most of foreign citizens live in Mazowieckie voivodeship (17.2 thousand, or 31%). This region attracted 73% citizens of Vietnam and approximately 30% of citizens of Ukraine and Russia. Foreign citizens are relatively young, with the largest groups aged 25-49.

Additionally, the Central Statistical Office estimated the stock of foreigners residing in Poland on the basis of the Labour Force Survey. This data source should be treated with caution, as it may underestimate the stock of foreigners for two reasons. First, as already stated in section 4.1, the survey was designed for the purposes of the labour market analysis and the sampling method is not adapted to track international migration. Second, as the CSO claims the pollsters are not trained to interview foreigners, the presence of the latter may not be documented in all cases. The Labour Force Survey reveals a very low scale of immigration to Poland. The number of foreign citizens aged 15 and over was estimated in 2011 at 44 thousand in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 41 thousand in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, which is rather a marginal number (Table 20 in the Annex).

The 2011 population census included also information on permanent residents of other countries, at the time of the census staying temporarily in Poland. It is assumed that the numbers presented below are underestimated. 56.3 thousand of temporary immigrants were identified, of which over 29 thousand remain in Poland for at least one year (and 40.1 thousand at least 3 months). This group is relatively young (70% aged 18-44) and resides in urban areas (82%). Most of them originate in Ukraine (17%), Germany (10%) and the United Kingdom (5%). 78% of permanent residents of other countries hold foreign (non-Polish) citizenship, mostly of Ukraine, Belarus, Germany, Russia, China, Bulgaria and Vietnam. The citizens of Poland are permanent residents mostly of Germany, the United Kingdom, USA, Italy, France and Ireland. In general, foreign citizens remain in Poland mostly for labour reasons, while Polish citizens for family reasons.

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<sup>24</sup> These numbers do not add up as the results of population census are very preliminary.

Information on the stock of temporary migrants may also be derived from the Central Population Register, which also concerns persons (both foreigners and Polish nationals) who arrived from abroad and registered for a temporary stay of above 3 months in Poland. The data for 2010 are not available, so the comparison is limited. In 2011, almost 66 thousand persons registered for a temporary stay (Table 21 in the Annex). 69% of them stayed in Poland shorter than 1 year. The main countries of previous stay included Ukraine (18.2 thousand, 28%), Germany (5.5 thousand, 8%), Belarus (4.3 thousand, 7%), Vietnam (3.2 thousand, 5%), the Russian Federation (2.3 thousand, 4%), and China (2.8 thousand, 4%). 27% immigrants recruited from the member states of European Union. They were predominantly men (57%), relatively young persons (61% aged 20-44) and inhabitants of Mazowieckie voivodeship (35%).

Additionally, it is worth noting that in 2010, 42,556 residence permits were issued, which was 2% less than in the previous year (Table 24 in the Annex). Just like in the previous period, these were mostly permits for a fixed period (29,650, 70%) and registrations of stay of EU citizens (7,058, that is 17%). The number of permits to settle amounted to almost 4 thousand. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, 97,080 foreign citizens held valid permits (of all kinds) of stay in Poland, mostly permits to settle (47,545) or for fixed period (37,103). Among the most important nationalities were: the citizens of Ukraine (28,5 thousand), Russia (12,5 thousand), Belarus (9 thousand) and Vietnam (8.6 thousand).

### **5.3. Foreign labour**

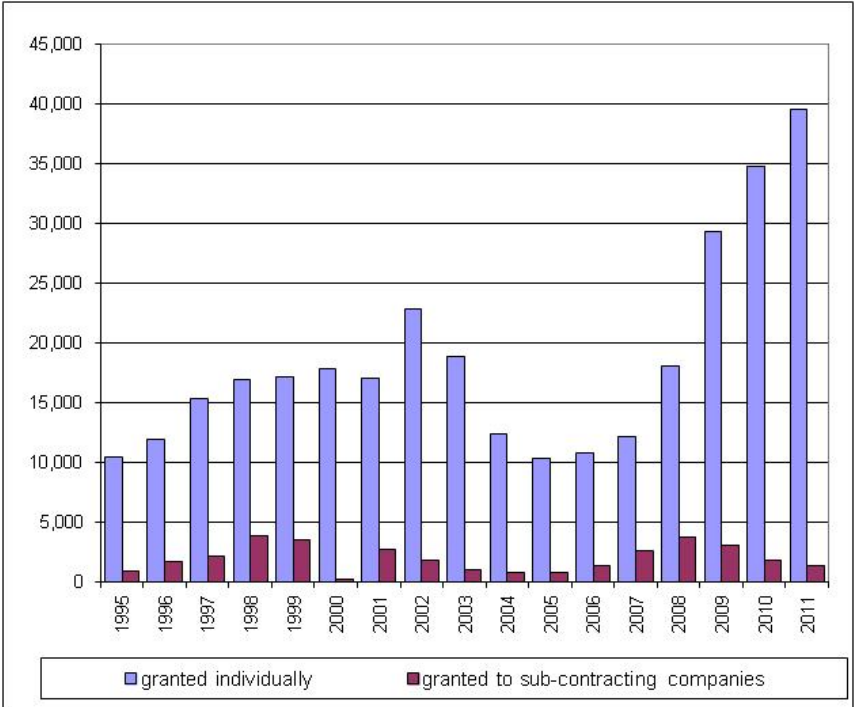
The following information on labour performed in Poland by foreigners was provided by the Central Statistical Office and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. The data refers to work permits granted individually to foreigners or to sub-contracting foreign companies operating in Poland.

The number of work permits granted in Poland has been increasing constantly since 2007 (Figure 13). As for work permits granted individually, 39,466 documents were issued in 2011, which is an increase of 13% with respect to the previous year (Table 25 in the Annex). As for work permits granted to foreign sub-contracting companies, 1,342 documents were issued in 2011, which was by 27% less than in the previous year. The main economic sectors of foreign employment were: the construction sector (8,945, that is 22%), retail and wholesale trade (6,833, that is 17%), households (4,365, that is 11%), manufacturing (3,877, that is 10%), professional, scientific and technical activities (3,323, that is 8%) and hotels and gastronomy (3,012, that is 7%). As for the country of origin of foreign employees, the largest groups in 2011 were the citizens of Ukraine (18,669, that is 35%), China (5,854, that is 14%), Vietnam (2,504, that is 6%), Belarus (1,725, that is 4%), and Nepal (1,202, that is 3%). The above-mentioned groups of foreign employees are dominated by qualified workers and workers performing simple jobs, employed mostly in retail and wholesale trade (the case of citizens of China, Ukraine, Vietnam), manufacturing (the domain of citizens of Ukraine), construction sector (Ukraine and China), transport (Belarus) and households (Ukraine).

An interesting new phenomenon concerns a large number of the citizens of Nepal, mostly employed in professional, scientific and technical activities (319 persons). Such an

abrupt inflow from this country and the peculiarity of the sector of employment indicate that specific migration networks linking Poland and Nepal (and involving recruitment agencies) have been established. Apart from that, the distributions of occupations, economic sectors and nationalities remain similar over the last years and the preliminary data for the first half of 2012 do not show any change. More than half of the work permits granted individually in 2011 were issued in Mazowieckie (22,063, Table 26 in the Annex); other regions attracting foreign workers were Pomorskie, Wielkopolskie, Dolnośląskie.

**Figure 13. Work permits granted to foreigners by type, 1995-2011**



Source: Own elaboration based on the National Labour Office and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy data.

In 2009 a simplified procedure of employment gave way to increased inflow of foreign labour. According to the procedure, the citizens of Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Russia do not need to receive a work permit in order to work for up to 6 months during 12 consecutive months, on the basis of a Polish employer’s declaration of intent to employ a foreigner. On the basis of such a declaration, Polish consulates issue visas which enable citizens of those countries to enter Poland and undertake employment.

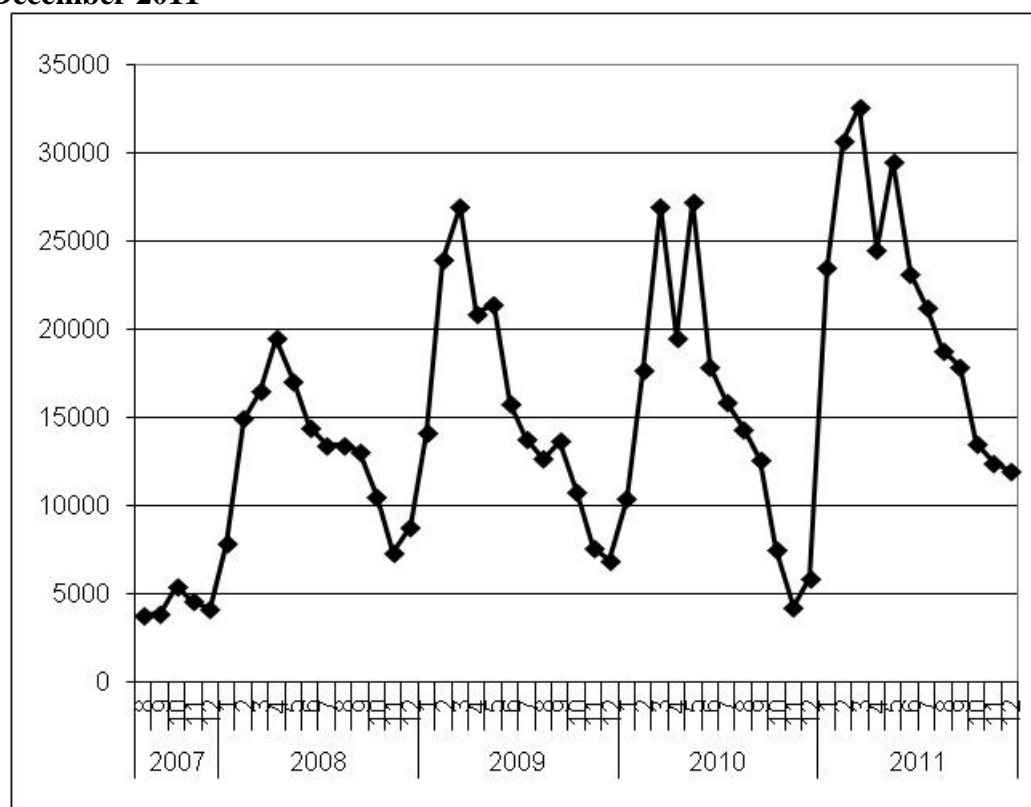
The number of employers’ declarations of intent to employ a foreigner on the basis of simplified procedure increased from almost 22 thousand in 2007 to 260 thousand in 2011, which was by 44% more than in 2010 (Table 3, Figure 14). As in the previous years, in 2011 Ukrainians constituted the vast majority of foreigners for whom the declaration was made on the basis of this procedure (240 thousand, that is 92%). Further nationalities were the citizens of Moldova (13 thousand), Belarus (4.4 thousand), Georgia (1.8 thousand) and Russia (1 thousand). The main economic sectors represented by the employers in 2011 were agriculture and the construction sector (Table 3), which explains seasonality of the demand (Figure 14). Additional economic sectors of employment were manufacturing, household services and transport.

**Table 3. Number of employers' declarations of intent to employ a foreigner, by sector of employment, 2007-2011**

Economic sector	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	<b>21,797</b>	<b>156,713</b>	<b>188,414</b>	<b>180,073</b>	<b>259,777</b>
Agriculture	6,431	77,187	122,352	109,603	128,788
Construction	5,629	23,949	19,095	20,049	57,169
Household services	1,242	8,270	8,791	6,619	11,564
Trade	746	5,031	3,815	2,585	4,597
Manufacturing	2,940	10,071	6,600	6,249	15,264
Transport	754	4,619	3,041	3,661	5,897
Hotels and restaurants	665	3,724	3,474	4,091	4,410
Temporary work agencies	992	10,312	11,341	10,999	.
<b>Other</b>	<b>2,229</b>	<b>13,138</b>	<b>11,385</b>	<b>16,217</b>	<b>32,088</b>

*Source: Own elaboration based on the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy data*

**Figure 14. Number of employers' declarations of intent to employ a foreigner, August 2007-December 2011**



*Source: Own elaboration based on the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy data.*

#### 5.4. Mixed marriages

This section is based on data derived from the Population Register (provided by the Central Statistical Office) on marriages contracted in Poland between a Polish resident and a person who lived abroad before matrimony. Mixed marriages concern persons residing permanently

in Poland and residing permanently abroad before marriage (of foreign or Polish nationality). It is worth mentioning that the Demographic Yearbooks published online by the Central Statistical Office provide more and more detailed information on marriages between a Polish resident and a 'foreigner', including the country of residence of the 'foreign' spouse.

In general, the number of mixed marriages registered in Poland has been increasing since 2006. In 2011, there were 83 marriages contracted between both foreign spouses and 3,484 with one foreign spouse (Table 32 in the Annex). Those numbers constitute, altogether, only 1.7% of all marriages contracted in Poland, which – again – points constantly low levels of immigration to the country. Similarly to previous years, mixed marriages in Poland are contracted more often between a husband residing abroad and a wife residing in Poland (80%). As for a husband from abroad, in 2011 the main sending countries were the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Ireland and France (Table 33 in the Annex). Interestingly, those countries constitute destinations for Polish emigrants rather than typical origin countries for immigrants trying to settle down in Poland. Therefore, it is highly probable that mixed marriages contracted with a man residing in the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Ireland or France concerned mostly Polish emigrants. The opposite situation can be observed in the case of wives from abroad, for whom the main sending countries were Ukraine, Belarus and the Russian Federation (Table 34 in the Annex). Since those are typical origin countries of immigrants, the mixed marriages contracted with women residing in Ukraine, Belarus or the Russian Federation concerned mostly immigrants.

## **5.5. Naturalization and repatriation**

The Polish citizenship is based on the *ius sanguinis* rule. Persons who do not have Polish parent(s) dispose of four procedures of acquiring Polish citizenship, open to different categories of foreigners: conferment procedure (with President as a competent authority), acknowledgment procedure (with governor of the region as a competent authority), declaration procedure (with governor of the region as a competent authority) and repatriation procedure (see section 2.6).

After a significant increase in 2005 and a drop in 2006, the number of acquisitions of Polish citizenship (by all procedures, except of repatriation) was 2,503 in 2009, 2,926 in 2010 and 3,445 in 2011 (Table 31 in the Annex). The main recipients were citizens of the former USSR: Ukrainians (1,086 persons in 2011), Belarusians (375), Russians (254), Armenians (140). The Vietnamese and German citizens constituted further major groups (126 and 112, respectively).

The resettlement law constitutes a legislative basis for settling down in Poland and this procedure is open to persons of Polish descent or origin. Officially, there are two possibilities to resettle in Poland: on the basis of the repatriation procedure and on the basis of the Article 52(5) of the Constitution. In practice, there are also numerous cases of persons who have finished studies, begun economic activity, and use the resettlement procedure to stay in Poland. Just like in the case of naturalization procedure, there are relatively few persons benefitting from the resettlement on the basis of the repatriation procedure. The main reasons for that are financial constraints related to repatriation to be borne by the Polish local authorities (accommodation and vacant job offers). Thus, after a certain peak in the period

2000-2002, the number of issued repatriation visas dropped to 204 in 2008, 164 in 2009 and 139 in 2010 (Tables 27-30 in the Annex). In 2011 it increased to 178. Applications for repatriation visas increased from 91 in 2010 to 201 in 2011. In 2011, the largest group of incoming repatriates originated from Kazakhstan (92 issued visas), the Russian Federation (31), Ukraine (20) and Belarus (18).

Due to problems with repatriation financing, other procedures are being used more and more often by persons of Polish descent willing to live in Poland. The Card of the Pole (in previous SOPEMI reports translated as the Polish Charter) is a document proving the adherence to the Polish nation. It entitles to apply for a visa of multiple entrances to Poland, and this visa – once obtained – can be reimbursed by the Polish state. Until the end of 2010, approximately 55 thousand applications were submitted. In 2011 20,472 Cards of the Pole were granted (18,333 in 2010). Around 88% applications were submitted in Ukraine and Belarus, followed by Lithuania (4 thousand) and Russia (2 thousand). The vast majority of applicants are young persons, often students, descendants of Polish nationals. According to the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the realization of the Polish law on the Card of the Pole in Belarus is impeded by the local administration.

## **5.6. Inflow of refugees / asylum seekers**

After a significant increase in 2009, the number of applications for the refugee status dropped from 10,587 to 6,534 in 2010 and 6,887 in 2011 (Table 35 in the Annex). Similarly to the previous year, the Russian Federation constituted the main sending country of asylum seekers (4,305 persons, 63% of all applications). Among Russian citizens, persons declaring Chechen nationality constituted the largest group, and among the persons applying until 2009, most were granted the supplementary protection or tolerated status. In 2010 the number of persons from Russia who were granted supplementary protection diminished abruptly – from 2,261 in 2009 to 172 in 2010 and 130 in 2011. In 2011, another important sending country was Georgia (1,735 persons, 25%), but most of applications are denied as manifestly unfounded.

In 2011, 153 persons were granted the refugee status in Poland according to the Geneva Convention (186 in 2008, 131 in 2009 and 82 in 2010). These were mostly citizens of Russia (82 persons), Belarus (19) and Iraq (16). In the same year, only 155 persons got supplementary protection (1,074 in 2008, 2,316 in 2009, 195 in 2010), whereas 170 persons were allowed to stay in Poland on the basis of tolerated status (65 in 2009, 196 in 2010). Again, the vast majority of those persons were the citizens of Russia.

## 6. Abolition for foreigners – assumptions, process and prognosed results<sup>25</sup>

### 6.1. Abolition Act – genesis and assumptions

On January 1 2012, the act concerning legalization of certain foreigners on the territory of the Republic of Poland and alterations to providing foreigners with protection on the territory of the Republic of Poland and act on foreigners<sup>26</sup> (further: abolition act) went into effect. On the basis of the act, within the first half year of 2012 the largest abolition regarding foreigners staying illegally in Poland took place. 9,521 people took the opportunity to apply for the legalization of their stay<sup>27</sup>. So far, voivodes<sup>28</sup>, being an administrative unit of first instance, have made positive decisions in 2,998 cases, and negative in 920 cases<sup>29</sup>, which means that about 40% out of the total of applications have been examined, with 60% still waiting to be looked into by voivodeship governors. We need to explain that the Polish administrative procedure is based on the two-instance rule (from an administrative decision an appeal may be sued to a higher administrative unit). With regard to the matters concerning abolition, the body of appeal is the Head of the Office for Foreigners, the central body of governmental administration, competent with respect to immigration. The decisions of the Head of the Office may be appealed against at the Voivodeship Administrative Court, whose sentence may be questioned via a cassation complaint at the Supreme Administrative Court. So far, the ratio of positive to negative decisions at first instance is, at rough estimate, 3:1, and at further stages positive decisions are likely to prevail to a greater extent. The Head of the Office has considered 65 appeals so far, affirming 33 decisions. In the other cases, the decisions were either reversed and passed on for further consideration or a stay permit was given to a foreigner<sup>30</sup>. There is no data available concerning suits.

The Polish legislator makes us feel used to the introduction of subsequent abolition actions perceived as an ‘appendix’ to profound amendments concerning foreigners’ law. This was the case at the first time, when the act of June 13 2003 on foreigners, still in effect, was passed<sup>31</sup>; such connection was also visible in 2006, when the abolition was associated with an extensive amendment to the above mentioned act<sup>32</sup>. The latest alterations were not an exception from this rule. The original design was to organize a successive action as the new act on foreigners came into force, yet parliamentary elections and prolonged work concerning the new legal act postponed governmental legislative plans until 2013. In the face of this situation, it was decided that abolition regulations should be shifted to the design of the amendment of the act concerning providing foreigners with protection on the territory of the

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<sup>25</sup> This section was prepared by Paweł Dąbrowski (Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw). An article in the Polish language version, on which this text is based, will appear in the Ombudsman Newsletter in 2012/2013.

<sup>26</sup> Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland 2011, No. 191, item 1133. Polish, English, Armenian, Vietnamese, Russian and Ukrainian language versions available at: <http://abolicja.gov.pl/informacje/prawo.html>

<sup>27</sup> Data on August 31, 2012, according to information compiled by the Office for Foreigners, available at: <http://abolicja.gov.pl/informacje/statystyki.html>

<sup>28</sup> A voivode (province governor) is a regional body of governmental administration. Poland is divided into 16 voivodeships (provinces).

<sup>29</sup> Data according to <http://abolicja.gov.pl/informacje/statystyki/zestawienie.html> from November 5, 2012.

<sup>30</sup> The types of decisions issued at second instance are regulated by article 138 of Administrative Code.

<sup>31</sup> The original text in the Journal of Laws 2003, No. 128, item 1175. The abolition was regulated in articles 154 and 155.

<sup>32</sup> Article 18 of the act on amendment to act on foreigners and other acts (Journal of Laws 2007, No. 120, item 818)



Republic of Poland, which, due to its limited scope, could be enacted prior to the parliamentary elections. This coincidence of legislative plans and abolition appears symptomatic, since it reflects the authorities' attitude to the entire matter – abolitions are conceived as an element of 'a new opening', a way to eliminate negative effects of repealed regulations, possibly also as an element of gaining social partners' favourable disposition towards designed alterations. The involvement of the Ombudsman in forcing the abolition act should be emphasized.

What needs to be emphasized in a brief sketch of the assumptions of the abolition act is its most significant feature – its comprehensive subjective scope which justifies calling the abolition universal, which is a consequence of renouncing assumptions such as socio-economic factors (e.g. title to an apartment, regular income, social insurance or the level of social integration) in the legalization of stay. Only the circumstances of stay in Poland were interpreted as crucial – the fact of uninterrupted illegal stay for at least 5 years on January 1 2012 (that is, since December 20 2007). The requirements were moderated with regard to those who had ineffectively applied for a refugee status in Poland, since they are treated as a group deserving an exceptionally humanitarian attitude. A rejected asylum seeker may benefit from the act if before January 1 2010 he or she became an addressee of an expulsion decision (as a consequence of a statement that he or she does not fulfill the criteria for providing him or her with any form of protection<sup>33</sup>) and if his or her current stay is illegal or at least if on that date he or she re-applied for a refugee status. The latter case does not originate from mere humanitarianism, since the foreigners who initiate numerous attempts to receive a refugee status have become a significant and expensive load for the asylum system in Poland. At present it is a group estimated at approximately 1,800 people. Special regulations dedicated to them are an attempt to limit this problem through a different form of legalization.

The dates indicated in the regulation are not incidental. December 20 2007 has a symbolic meaning – it was the first day of full enforcement of Schengen regulations in Poland. January 1<sup>st</sup> 2010, on the other hand, is connected with a massive influx of the citizens of Georgia to Poland which took place in 2008 and 2009. Those people frequently applied for refugee status upon crossing the border, yet the eventual outcome of their legal proceedings was usually negative.

Several different, in my opinion justified, exemptions were added. These concerned – to put it vividly – terrorists, common criminals, foreigners who have already been placed on the Schengen 'black list' (that is, in the SIS information system), those whose stay may stand in the way of the security or interests of the Republic of Poland or who have been caught red-handed while lying to officials in charge of the proceedings.

In reality, the abolition was divided into a 'large' and 'small', although the regulations do not visibly reflect it. This division in nomenclature was derived from the abolition carried out in 2003, when a normative division was made between the cases of foreigners who applied for a permission for stay in order to settle in Poland and of those who wished to leave the territory of the Republic of Poland without consequences (as a result of a decision

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<sup>33</sup> According to the act of 13 June 2003 on providing foreigners with protection on the territory of the Republic of Poland during proceedings regarding refugee status, the assumptions examined are: of refugee status, subsidiary protection and permission to tolerated stay.

containing an expulsion order and listing in the register of foreigners whose stay on the territory of the Republic of Poland was undesirable<sup>34</sup>). Actually, however, the abolition act provides for the legalization of foreigners' stay during the legal proceedings (article 5, paragraph 1), and legal stay made leaving Poland possible, because contact with Border Guard when crossing the state border did not bear negative consequences. We must therefore consider the fact that a certain group of applicants formally initiated the abolition proceedings solely in order to leave Poland with no legal consequences.

The beneficiaries of the abolition will gain a permission for stay for a defined 2-year period. Once such a decision has been issued, the foreigner's former history is 'erased' if it includes decisions such as an expulsion order, obligation to leave the territory of the Republic of Poland and different orders concerning that matter included in other decisions. The foreigner's data is erased from the register of foreigners whose stay at the territory of the Republic of Poland is undesirable and, as a consequence, from SIS (see: foreigners act, article 134a). After the permission expires, a beneficiary of abolition is treated on a regular basis, without any preferences.

## **6.2. Abolition action – the process**

The abolition process had its weak points, the most serious drawbacks, however, resulted from the construction faults of the act and from the assumed expense-free character of the whole enterprise<sup>35</sup>. However, we must admit that the leading organizational body – the Head of the Office for Foreigners – followed the doctrine of maximum goodwill towards the foreigner, especially with regard to the applied interpretation of the law. We will provide several examples. The definition of 'illegal stay' is, in the light of the Polish law, difficult to formulate, and, as a result, it is problematic to differentiate between 'illegal' and 'legal' stay<sup>36</sup>. On the grounds of the abolition this problem surfaced with regard to people who, on the day of the act being carried into effect, were staying at a guarded foreigners' centre or under arrest expecting expulsion. According to article 110 of the foreigners act, their stay during detention is perceived as legal. A linguistic interpretation would call for excluding these people from the circle of abolition beneficiaries, since their illegal stay is regarded a prerequisite. However, the interpretation of the Head of the Office for Foreigners implied an intentional direction and they were given the rights equal to those granted to the foreigners enjoying freedom. Another example concerns a wide understanding of the notion 'another document confirming identity', used in the foreigners act, article 60 paragraph 6, applied by right of return contained in the abolition act (article 2, paragraph 1). It is a regulation which allows for an exceptional use of an ID different from a travel document. These documents include IDs issued by Polish authorities on the basis of foreigner's oral declaration concerning

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<sup>34</sup> Legal basis for listing in the register were regulated in article 128 of the act of 13 June 2003 on foreigners. It is a state register, in which foreigners who were subject to decisions concerning an order to leave the territory of the Republic of Poland are listed.

<sup>35</sup> In the justification of the project of the abolition act the following statement was included: 'Introducing regulations of abolition character will not result in costs for the state budget'. Parliamentary printed matter No. 4394, the Sejm of the Republic of Poland, VI tenure.

<sup>36</sup> More on this issue in Dąbrowski 2011.

his or her personal data, especially a temporary identity certificate issued for persons applying for a refugee status.

Positive actions of the Office for Foreigners should be emphasized, such as publicizing information concerning the abolition, including an information line for foreigners and a website promoting abolition.

The most challenging task connected with the abolition was faced by the Masovian Voivode (Mazowieckie Province Governor) and the Department of Foreigners of the Mazowieckie Province Office. The statistics reveal an absolute supremacy of Masovia as the place of actual or at least declared place of foreigners' illegal stay. 7,386 applications, which means nearly 78% of all applications, were submitted to the Mazowieckie Province Office. These numbers show that the expense-free assumption concerning the operation is invalid. Due to the lack of funds, the logistical organization of the whole operation as well as administrative proceedings must rely on formerly employed staff<sup>37</sup> and the infrastructure already available. Such a number of applications means costs resulting from the personnel working overtime or the necessity of additional civil legal contracts with people involved in the examination of applications. All these factors imply prolonging the process of applications being considered, hinder accuracy of the officials and result in mistakes. Some non-governmental organizations stated that the Mazowieckie Province Department of Foreigners was paralyzed. A similar problem occurred at a Border Guard Unit in Warsaw (Nadwiślański Oddział Straży Granicznej), whose officers supported voivodes during explanatory proceedings, e.g. by conducting dactyloscopy.

It is too early a stage for a reliable evaluation of the quality of administrative procedures conducted in the conditions described. Such an evaluation may be concluded after decisions of administrative courts have been made, however, we can already indicate certain weak points.

What turned out the worst nightmare of the entire action is a phenomenon called 'abolition tourism'. Essentially, applications were submitted by foreigners who did not illegally reside in Poland, but in other Schengen countries. With interior borders open, they could easily enter the territory of Poland, without being listed in state registers. Some of them did so deliberately, giving false testimony concerning the length of their stay in Poland, others had been misled by dishonest agents who had made use of their ignorance and derived income from mediations between the foreigners and an administrative body. On French-language internet sites adverts concerning the possibility of benefiting from the abolition in Poland were published, which was a symptomatic phenomenon. Later peculiar incidents took place – e.g. Pakistani people staying in France were coming to Poland 'for a while', to submit an abolition application and pay an agent, and leaving for France by the first plane available. Of course, the chance of a positive decision in the case of applications submitted in the above described circumstances are delusive. It appears crucial that the massive scale of this phenomenon increased suspicion towards the applicants who did not manage to prove their earlier stay in Poland and caused the necessity of additional, time-consuming investigation concerning e.g. declared place of stay. The presumption of authenticity regarding an uninterrupted stay assumed by law (abolition act, article 3, paragraph 4) was judicially

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<sup>37</sup> The staff of the Office for Foreigners were also delegated to interview applicants.

negated, e.g. by featuring the fact that a foreigner does not speak the Polish language (as a circumstance undermining his or her reliability).

This situation results from a constructive error of the abolition act, which prolonged the period of submitting abolition application up to 6 months. With such a long period restoring border controls at interior borders became impossible, and this sometimes is a course of action during abolitions. It is an important issue because it turned out that there was an actual risk that the abolition would attract foreigners unrelated to Poland. Only noting entries to the territory of the Republic of Poland makes such a possibility less dangerous.

It is also connected with a legislative mistake concerning the regulation of a duty to undergo dactyloscopy. Every abolition applicant should undergo the examination of fingerprints. But, firstly, fingerprints can only be verified in the state police database (AFIS), and not in the European system EURODAC, in which a trace of a foreigner's stay in another country could be found. Secondly, not undergoing dactyloscopy does not imply rejecting or lack of examination of an application.

Apparently, the legislator did not actually manage to create a basis for the legalization of foreigners' stay if they do not have any ID. However, as we mentioned above, the interpretation regarding IDs agreed upon by the Head of the Office for Foreigners covered difficult cases, nonetheless certain difficulties remained unsolved. We can indicate several problematic examples of foreigners incapable of proving their identity, which was an assumption to submit an abolition application. Such situations concerned, among others, stateless persons (in Poland the administrative practice notes the presence of stateless people of Palestinian nationality and people coming from the former Soviet Union), who usually are not protected by a consulate of any state; foreigners who declare a citizenship, but who stay in Poland since birth or early childhood and are not registered as citizens of their home country; foreigners-citizens of other countries who, due to weaknesses of the state system or purposeful policy of their country of origin, are actually cut off from consular aid of their authorities. The latter situation may be the case especially when a consular post of the country of origin does not operate in Poland. There are also situations when issuing an ID by a consular post depends on fulfilling certain duties by a foreigner, such as military service in the country of origin.

Taking these examples into consideration, carrying out the aims of the abolition would be more reliable if the rigid requirement of showing an ID was replaced by a formula obliging a foreigner to prove his or her identity with the use of a wider range of evidence. In the first place, it would resolve a problem referred to during the works of the Committee of Experts on Migration, supporting the Ombudsman, namely the foreigners who have an invalid travel document (due to its expiry date).

We do not know the number of foreigners who could not benefit from the abolition due to the above mentioned difficulties. The statistics do not reveal their number since only the number of submitted applications and decisions made are included. The lack of an ID, on the other hand, was interpreted as a formal fault and if it was not eliminated, an application remained unexamined, which does not, in the light of the Polish law, mean an administrative decision.

If the abolition process becomes subject to scientific research in the future, it will be worth examining whether the fear concerning legal responsibility for giving false evidence

concerning ones identity in the past was another barrier restraining people from submitting an application. Foreigners frequently decide on such steps, that is, they declare biased or false personal data in order to make their identification even more difficult<sup>38</sup>. Others pretend juveniles in order to avoid detention. Since these actions often prove effective, a foreigner begins his or her life in Poland with a fake identity.

### 6.3. Evaluation of results

Are 9,521 accepted applications many or few? In official speeches made by VIPs this number means success. Triumphant news in the headline concerning statistical data on site [www.abolicja.gov.pl](http://www.abolicja.gov.pl) administered by the Office for Foreigners states: ‘the total of applications submitted during abolitions in 2003 and 2007/08 has been outnumbered’. The other extreme is populated by voices declaring ‘failure’, ‘disaster’, etc. connected with the fact that very few illegal immigrants had an opportunity to benefit from the abolition. If the success of the abolition is to be measured with the percentage of foreigners who, during their illegal stay, decided to submit an application, the evaluation depends on the estimation of the size of illegal immigration in Poland. Such estimation is, however, impossible from the scientific point of view, due to difficulties in data derivation and estimation methods still being developed<sup>39</sup>. Giving any specific number in this area is mere speculation. Therefore, we do not know whether every third, fifth or tenth foreigner whose stay in Poland is illegal has taken the opportunity. If we wished to get closer to the truth, research of a broad spectrum would be required. Until then evaluation appears premature.

The citizenship structure of the people who applied for abolition is not surprising. Two first countries in this respect are Vietnam (2,189 people) and Ukraine (2,013). The citizens of these countries reach the top of the statistics concerning expulsion decisions and obligations to leave the territory of the Republic of Poland. Pakistan citizens occupy the third place (1,420). Here the statistics rather do not reflect the actual situation because of the ‘abolition tourism’ described above.

More definite conclusions may be drawn with regard to the category of foreigners who made inefficient attempts to obtain a refugee status. In this case we can obviously declare failure – a predictable one. Applications basing on article 1 points 2 and 3 of the abolition act equal only 1.5% out of the total, which in absolute value means 148 applications. It is a meagre fraction of the number of people who, after a negative decision concerning their refugee status, illegally reside in Poland, hiding, or submit subsequent refugee applications. The legislator’s offer did not prove attractive for most of those persons<sup>40</sup>.

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<sup>38</sup> Due to the lack of relevant data confirming these statements I have referred to an analysis in which I, as a member of the Council on Refugees and Exiles, elaborated upon an administrative decision. I chose the period 1.01.2011 – 10.07.2012, during which I had prepared 71 settlements (not including resolutions or responses to charges). In 19 cases a foreigner had no authentic ID, and 8 out of these 19 incidents the case was connected with a recognized usage of a forged ID or declaring false identity.

<sup>39</sup> One of the attempts to estimate the population of foreigners whose stay in Poland is illegal, made within the framework of an international research programme, led to a conclusion that their number equals 50 to 600 thousand.

<sup>40</sup> There is one more factor which may obfuscate these estimates, namely the people who inefficiently applied for a refugee status may be included in the range of article 1 point 1 and declare this assumption as the basis for submitting an abolition application.

Such a low result should not surprise, since protection from returning to the country of origin is not the only aim of the group of people applying for a refugee status. For some foreigners the legalization of their stay is not an attractive option unless it is connected with a guaranteed access to social benefits at a satisfactory level. This conclusion is not revealed by the abolition action, however, it is simply confirmed. The problem of these people's status was identified a long time ago and we can call this matter pressing. Refugee proceedings are, as opposed to other proceedings, characterized by a specific feature – namely, the applicant benefits from the very fact of these proceedings taking place, in particular he or she may enjoy social benefits. On the other hand, the final decision, even if positive, does not necessarily provide him or her with benefits (e.g. decision permission for tolerated stay). From the point of view of a person who feels dependent on welfare such decision appears worthless, or even harmful, since it cuts off the way to former benefits provided during the proceedings, even though they were temporary. A description of the situation taking place in the years 2006-2008 may illustrate the foreigners' attitude towards such decisions. In that period proceedings concerning applicants from Chechnya frequently finished with permissions for tolerated stay. The addressee appealed from that decision, applying for special forms of protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection). If the decision was still in force, the foreigner, having received the final decision, would disclaim the permission for tolerated stay and re-apply for a refugee status. The application was examined through a repeated permission for tolerated stay, the foreigner disclaimed it again, etc. (this example refers to history, due to an alteration with regard to judicial policy concerning the Chechens). Nowadays, this phenomenon continues, however repeated applications are submitted after a negative decision regarding the refugee status.

The legislator has been struggling for the elimination of this phenomenon, without victory, however. Different means have been used in this period: the possibility of deprivation or limitation of social benefits during subsequent proceedings was introduced, a legal basis allowing for discontinuation of proceedings instituted on the basis of repeated applications was amended, absolute protection from expulsion during repeated proceedings was abolished. Foreigners' stay was also legalized somewhat 'by force', at the same time excluding the possibility of disclaiming the temporary stay title/permit (in the light of the Polish law the refugee status or subsidiary protection must not be disclaimed).

Returning to the abolition, the Polish legislator made another attempt to resolve the problem of those persons' status. A permission for stay does not imply the welfare benefits, moreover – basically it assumes foreigner's economic self-reliance. In this context, the permission for stay appears to those people as worthless as, formerly, the permission for tolerated stay offered earlier. This is the factor which makes this group uninterested in the abolition procedure.

#### **6.4. Long-term results of the abolition**

It should not be expected that the abolition will vitally contribute to the limitation of the scale of illegal immigration in Poland. It cannot be perceived as an instrument serving social purposes. It has a *stricte* humanitarian dimension, and is a response to various human experiences, serves as a means to alleviate the consequences of restrictive regulations. There

are two reasons for this limited function of the abolition. Firstly, an abolition always removes the consequences of, not the reasons for, illegality. Its character is by assumption reactive, not preventive. Abolition is always an answer to the question concerning how we should act with regard to a foreigner whose stay is illegal. It does not cope with the problem why he or she is staying illegally, though. The policy of fighting with illegal immigration through abolition is paradoxical. If the circumstances of entering the state of illegality remain, consequently the group of people whose stay is illegal may be recreated. And if illegal immigration justifies an abolition, a subsequent immigration wave calls for organizing another abolition. In this way, abolition may become a regular, repeated element of immigration policy. It means a change in the life of a particular person (beneficiary of an abolition), but it does not imply a social change. The conclusion is that abolition as an instrument of social policy only makes sense provided it is combined with a more thorough change, aiming at removal of the reasons for entering the state of illegality. Will the new foreigners' regulations, scheduled for 2013 fulfill this condition? We must refrain from an answer at least until a new act concerning foreigners has been enacted. However, we can already be skeptical in this respect, since the approaching change does not result from the diagnosis of social problems connected with immigration, but from technocratic motives – enhancing procedures, implementation of new EU regulations, etc. It is highly improbable that anyone in Poland can state, in accordance with scientific standards, how a foreigner reaches an illegal status of his or her stay in Poland – what social, economic, legal circumstances have the decisive role and with regard to whom? In this area opinions, observations, synthesis of experiences may be discussed, but we cannot call it a structured knowledge. Without a diagnosis, a symptomatic treatment is introduced, such as another abolition. Yet the point is that we need to find the source of the problems, which is beyond our scope.

Abolitions can only reach social aims to a limited extent, for their effects frequently prove short-lived (considering e.g. Spanish experiences), that is, a major part of beneficiaries returns to the pre-abolition state, which means illegal stay. We must acknowledge that the permission for stay expires in 2 years and a subsequent legalization requires the fulfillment of standard conditions, including a relevant financial status. In general, further legalization is possible if the foreigner proves that his or her person will not burden the state budget, through e.g. benefiting from the welfare, unemployment or lack of health insurance. If a beneficiary does not use the first two years to build up their economic reliability, the legalization of his or her stay will turn out short-lasting and the entire action not worth the trouble.

Polish experiences in that matter reportedly contradict those fears, since the research on the results of the abolition action conducted in 2003 indicate a relatively high percentage of further legalizations of its beneficiaries' stay. It is estimated that 7 years after the abolition was finished about 50% of Armenians who had been then granted a permission for stay, continued to reside legally in Poland (the lowest percentage in all the groups surveyed), and respectively 65% of Vietnamese and Ukrainian citizens<sup>41</sup>. There are certain construction discrepancies on the basis of which we may prognose that the effects of the 2012 abolition

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<sup>41</sup> On the basis of Home Office 2012. The basis of the estimates was the parameter of issuing subsequent cards of residence to the beneficiaries, that is, a document a foreigner receives on the receipt of a subsequent legalization permission. The reasons for not applying for a further permission are different and do not always mean return to the state of illegality of stay – e.g. death, further migration, return to the country of origin, acquiring Polish citizenship.

will not be so long-lasting. First of all, the 2012 abolition assumed the fulfillment of rigorous economic conditions (legal title to an apartment, a pledge to have a work permit issued, income or property allowing for covering the costs of living and medical care<sup>42</sup>) and therefore mainly foreigners enjoying a relatively good financial situation entered the circle of abolition beneficiaries. Due to difficulties in proving the fulfillment of the required conditions 15-28% of the total (depending on the nationality group) were eliminated<sup>43</sup>. The abolition which took place in 2012 was not connected with any economic criteria, so the permission was issued irrespectively of the financial situation. We can expect that this fact will be reflected by a higher percentage of rejections after the permissions expire, because the situation of some people from this group will be so difficult that they will not manage to fulfill the legalization criteria within 2 years. However, we need to add that during the abolition in 2003 the permission concerned a one-year period, so the time given to foreigners to meet the criteria was shorter.

It is worth mentioning again that during the 2003 abolition a group of foreigners was legally separated who were only aiming at a legal departure from the territory of the Republic of Poland without any further consequences ('small abolition'), which was not the case in 2012. The quoted statistical data concerning continued legalization only refer to those foreigners who intentionally applied for a settlement permit, intending to stay in Poland. In this-year abolition the 'leaving' group is included in the total of beneficiaries and cannot be statistically separated. Probably a (large?) part of the foreigners who left Poland, even if granted a permission, will not apply for legalization permissions in two-year's time, so the data referring to repeated legalization will prove relatively lower.

The basic question is whether in the Polish conditions the legalization of a foreigner's stay will change his or her economic strategy to such an extent that the danger of his or her stay becoming illegal can be eliminated. Let us use the example of a Vietnamese person, vendor at a shopping centre near Warsaw. Will the legalization of his or her stay make him or her register the business, legalize the employment (self-employment) and pay the state insurance (ZUS insurance) and tax liabilities? If one of the answers is negative, the conditions for making his or her stay illegal remain fulfilled (an issued permission does not protect from such decision). Examples such as an Ukrainian citizen working at a construction site or an Ukrainian domestic help are similar – the situation of such people demonstrates that in economic categories it is only profitable for an economic immigrant to operate in the black market.

As far as further reasons for delegalization of a stay are concerned, we need to remember that a foreigner benefiting from an abolition is granted a temporary permission. After its expiry, the foreigner enters the system of general legalization of residence, determined in the foreigners act, with no specific preferences. This means that a further permission will be basically determined by the access to, among others, medical insurance, a stable and regular source of income, title to an apartment. Without the fulfillment of these conditions, the permission shall not be prolonged. Therefore, these two years should be devoted to the stabilization of the foreigner's financial situation. The latter requirement often

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<sup>42</sup> Act of 13 June 2003 on Foreigners, article 154.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibidem*.



disagrees with the profile of a foreigner benefiting from abolition, since illegality is often also caused by social maladjustment – resourcelessness, a different legal culture or, simply, irresponsibility.

Here we ought to focus on article 12 of the abolition act, the ratio legis of which is not exactly clear. This regulation states that a foreigner may perform a job on the territory of Poland without a work permit on the basis of an employment contract. On the one hand this rule improves the situation of an abolition beneficiary (as opposed to the other foreigners), and thus creates favourable conditions to gain an economic status that may result in a subsequent permission for stay for a defined period of time. On the other hand, however, limitations have been introduced which allow for exemption from the duty of obtaining a permit only in the case of employment contracts, and the duty of obtaining such permit, regulated in the act of April 20 2004 on the promotion of employment and labour market institutions<sup>44</sup> extends also to civil legal contracts. This issue was noticed during the work of the Ombudsman, which resulted in the position adopted by the Department of the Labour Market of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. According to the presented opinion, it is planned to create preferences for foreigners' employment on the basis of employment contracts. If an employer decides on a mandate contract or a contract for specific work, they will have to be prepared to apply for a work permit. Today it is difficult to state if this regulation stems from correct reasoning and what the actual effects of this regulation will be – elimination of abolition beneficiaries from the labour market or strengthening of their position as employees. The regulation appears experimental and its effects need to be monitored.

## **6.5. Conclusion**

The abolition, during its basic period of submitting applications, could have been conducted in a more efficient way. It also could be advertised even more, procedures could be introduced more efficiently and the legal regulations could be better formulated. However, the evaluation should be balanced, shortcomings should be perceived in the context of unsatisfactory financial and organizational capacities of the bodies responsible for the action. Objections concerning ill will, ostensible authorities' operations, etc., do not appear convincing. We must remember that abolition is not a duty of the state – but for the good will of the people in charge, it might have not taken place at all.

The basis and the process of the abolition are controversial and in certain aspects subject to dispute between the administration and its social partners. However, it has been the most universal regularization action conducted so far. Despite all the doubts, it will grant an opportunity to many people who are going to benefit from it, it will create a chance for a normal life, at the same time being an element of an image of a state open for immigrants.

The basic aim of immigration policy with regard to the beneficiaries of the abolition of 2012 should be providing them with an opportunity to fulfill general economic criteria for the legalization of foreigners' stay in Poland.

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<sup>44</sup> Journal of Laws 2008, No.69, item 415 with changes.

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**Table 1. International Migration (a). Poland 1952-2011 (in thousand).**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Emigrants</b>	<b>Immigrants</b>	<b>Net migration</b>
1952-1960	369.6	274.3	-95.3
1961-1970	223.8	24.3	-199.5
1971-1980	225.7	16.2	-209.5
1981-1990	266.7	17.3	-249.4
1991-2000	224.7	72.7	-152.0
2001-2010	258.2	112.8	-145.3
2011	19.9	15.5	-4.3

(a) only migrants registering for or deregistering from permanent residence.

Source: Kępińska 2007; own calculations based on Central Population Register PESEL.

**Table 2. International migration (a); year-by-year figures. Poland 1945-2011 (in thousand).**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Emigrants</b>	<b>Immigrants</b>	<b>Net migration</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Emigrants</b>	<b>Immigrants</b>	<b>Net migration</b>
1947	542.7	228.7	-314.0	1980	22.7	1.5	-21.2
1948	42.7	62.9	20.2	1981	23.8	1.4	-22.4
1949	61.4	19.1	-42.3	1982	32.1	0.9	-31.2
1950	60.9	8.1	-52.8	1983	26.2	1.2	-25.0
1951	7.8	3.4	-4.4	1984	17.4	1.6	-15.8
1952	1.6	3.7	2.1	1985	20.5	1.6	-18.9
1953	2.8	2.0	-0.8	1986	29.0	1.9	-27.1
1954	3.8	2.8	-1.0	1987	36.4	1.8	-34.6
1955	1.9	4.7	2.8	1988	36.3	2.1	-34.2
1956	21.8	27.6	5.8	1989	26.6	2.2	-24.4
1957	133.4	91.8	-41.6	1990	18.4	2.6	-15.8
1958	139.3	92.8	-46.5	1991	21.0	5.0	-16.0
1959	37.0	43.2	6.2	1992	18.1	6.5	-11.6
1960	28.0	5.7	-22.3	1993	21.3	5.9	-15.4
1961	26.5	3.6	-22.9	1994	25.9	6.9	-19.0
1962	20.2	3.3	-16.9	1995	26.3	8.1	-18.2
1963	20.0	2.5	-17.5	1996	21.3	8.2	-13.1
1964	24.2	2.3	-21.9	1997	20.2	8.4	-11.8
1965	28.6	2.2	-26.4	1998	22.2	8.9	-13.3
1966	28.8	2.2	-26.6	1999	21.5	7.5	-14.0
1967	19.9	2.1	-17.8	2000	26.9	7.3	-19.6
1968	19.4	2.2	-17.2	2001	23.3	6.6	-16.7
1969	22.1	2.0	-20.1	2002	24.5	6.6	-17.9
1970	14.1	1.9	-12.2	2003	20.8	7.0	-13.8
1971	30.2	1.7	-28.5	2004	18.9	9.5	-9.4
1972	19.1	1.8	-17.3	2005	22.2	9.4	-12.8
1973	13.0	1.4	-11.6	2006	46.9	10.8	-36.1
1974	11.8	1.4	-10.4	2007	35.5	15.0	-20.5
1975	9.6	1.8	-7.8	2008	30.1	15.3	-14.8
1976	26.7	1.8	-24.9	2009	18.6	17.4	-1.2
1977	28.9	1.6	-27.3	2010	17.4	15.2	-2.1
1978	29.5	1.5	-28.0				
1979	34.2	1.7	-32.5	2011	19.9	15.5	-4.3

(a) only migrants registering for or deregistering from permanent residence.

Source: Kępińska 2007, CSO Demographic Yearbook 2009, 2010; 2010 data provided by CSO; based on Central Population Register PESEL.

**Table 3. International migration (a) by half-year. Poland 1994-2012 (in thousand).**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Number of emigrants</b>	<b>Number of immigrants</b>	<b>Net migration</b>
1994 1st half-year	11.9	3.0	-8.9
1995 1st half-year	13.3	3.4	-9.9
1996 1st half-year	10.6	3.6	-7.0
1997 1st half-year	9.3	3.6	-5.7
1998 1st half-year	10.6	4.1	-6.4
1999 1st half-year	9.5	3.8	-5.7
2000 1st half-year	12.8	3.1	-9.7
2001 1st half-year	11.6	3.3	-8.3
2002 1st half-year	10.6	2.9	-7.7
2003 1st half-year	9.9	3.0	-7.0
2004 1st half-year	8.0	4.2	-3.8
2005 1st half-year	9.6	4.3	-5.3
2006 1st half-year	25.0	4.7	-20.4
2007 1st half-year	16.7	6.2	-10.5
2008 1st half-year	15.5	7.0	-8.5
2009 1st half-year	8.6	8.4	-0.2
2010 1st half-year	8.0	7.1	-0.9
2011 1st half-year	9.1	6.9	-2.2
2012 1st half-year	9.3	6.6	-2.7

(a) Only migrations registering for or deregistering from permanent residence.  
Source: Kępińska 2007, Central Statistical Office (Central Population Register – PESEL).

**Table 4. Population by nationality. Poland 2009 (as of December 31) (a)**

Nationality / country of nationality	Total	of which: Women	Nationality / country of nationality	Total	of which: Women
Total	38 167 329	19 738 587	Japan	167	84
Polish	38 117 697	19 713 061	Jordan	150	14
Foreign	49 632	25 526	Kazakhstan	373	209
<i>of which:</i>			Lebanon	131	10
Algeria	241	8	Lithuania	521	367
Armenia	1 393	554	Moldova	191	103
Australia	104	34	Mongolia	249	144
Austria	976	522	Netherlands	480	102
Belarus	3 219	2 161	Norway	102	28
Belgium	201	57	Romania	266	87
Bulgary	1 122	377	Russian Federation	4 191	2 855
Canada	223	77	Serbia and Montenegro	142	23
China	391	158	Slovak Republic	334	191
Croatia	148	27	Spain	169	66
Czech Republic	682	388	Sweden	1 334	696
Czechoslovakia	180	101	Switzerland	107	46
Denmark	269	120	Syria	277	28
Egypt	109	9	Turkey	363	17
France	705	247	Ukraine	10 227	7 071
Georgia	138	55	United Kingdom	764	201
Germany	4 446	1 978	USA	1 052	431
Greece	861	272	USSR	995	681
Hungary	448	222	Vietnam	2 875	1 077
India	288	82	Yugoslavia	296	68
Iraq	241	27	Other (less than 100 citizens)	1 811	469
Italy	672	144	Stateless	209	124
			Unknown	4 168	2 553

(a) no recent data available – to be published in first quarter of 2013

Source: Central Population Register (PESEL).



**Table 5. Emigrants (a) by major destinations and sex. Poland 2007-2011.**

Country of destination	Total					Of which: women				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	35 480	30 140	18 620	17 360	19 858	14 606	13 978	10 209	9 385	10 704
EU-15	30 229	24 706	15 137	13 997	16 483	12 312	11 417	8 394	7 595	8 930
EU-27	:	24 950	15 256	14 143	16 627	.	11 531	8 446	7 672	9 074
Europe (b)	31 136	25 710	15 726	14 651	17 150	12 646	11 815	8 676	7 931	9 256
Austria	785	559	386	338	473	350	303	221	192	263
Belgium	402	325	281	296	330	190	154	157	175	175
Bulgaria	17	13	7	5	7	9	6	3	1	2
Czech Rep.	116	123	44	66	79	48	62	17	34	44
Cyprus	39	29	16	18	18	11	10	6	12	12
Denmark	217	208	137	138	178	84	80	71	75	92
Finland	43	42	23	25	41	16	13	13	12	20
France	533	564	388	339	376	240	290	220	183	209
Germany	13 771	11 884	7 769	6 818	7 784	6 898	6 440	4 550	3 850	4 453
Greece	119	174	88	91	58	51	102	55	61	32
Hungary	13	13	19	15	12	10	7	8	7	9
Iceland	140	99	36	43	63	52	25	16	26	35
Ireland	2 089	1 422	570	565	712	445	404	271	261	327
Italy	813	922	549	535	515	478	582	389	381	364
Luxembourg	36	31	21	18	15	22	14	11	13	9
Netherlands	1 098	1 004	691	680	899	390	414	357	329	417
Norway	304	418	245	303	277	80	141	101	141	125
Romania	9	2	1	6	2	5	1	0	3	2
Russian Fed.	30	23	15	15	7	7	9	6	3	1
Spain	650	514	330	272	304	223	211	166	142	159
Sweden	487	475	398	400	347	202	230	220	220	185
Switzerland	147	166	111	102	136	62	88	77	65	72
United Kingdom	9 165	6 565	3 502	3472	4434	2 712	2 177	1 691	1 698	2 207
Ukraine	30	34	25	18	17	9	13	7	7	8
Africa	41	58	36	32	50	14	26	16	14	23
South Africa	18	27	16	5	19	5	10	8	2	12
Other	23	31	20	27	31	9	16	8	12	11
America	3 928	4 033	2 551	2 407	2 353	1 801	1 977	1 346	1 298	1 260
Canada	821	841	571	607	550	410	436	302	324	275
US	3 078	3 158	1 961	1 767	1 797	1 380	1 532	1 035	961	982
Asia	76	74	61	94	83	20	23	33	50	36
Oceania	264	261	244	175	193	124	136	137	91	111
Australia	233	239	227	163	175	112	127	130	86	102
Other	31	22	17	12	18	12	9	7	5	9
Unknown	8	4	.	1	2	1	1	.	1	1

(.) no data available.

(a) refers to 'permanent migrants only, (b) including Turkey and Cyprus

Source: Kępińska 2007, Demographic Yearbook 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012; data provided by CSO; based on Central Population Register PESEL (Central Statistical Office).

**Table 6. Emigrants (a) by provinces of origin. Poland 2006-2011.**

Province of origin	Numbers						Percentage of total					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Dolnośląskie	5 201	3 702	3 457	2 164	2 007	2 148	11.1	10.4	11.5	11.6	11.6	10.8
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	2 360	1 560	1 210	745	766	910	5.0	4.4	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.6
Lubelskie	1 703	1 145	839	492	459	583	3.6	3.2	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.9
Lubuskie	1 497	1 226	983	584	557	693	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.5
Łódzkie	1 462	984	836	468	556	551	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.5	3.2	2.8
Małopolskie	3 178	2 254	2 314	1 311	1 231	1 494	6.8	6.4	7.7	7.0	7.1	7.5
Mazowieckie	2 185	1 446	1 068	636	592	787	4.7	4.1	3.5	3.4	3.4	4.0
Opolskie	4 792	4 385	3 785	2 117	1 848	2 318	10.2	12.4	12.6	11.4	10.6	11.7
Podkarpackie	2 800	1 893	1 801	1 040	863	951	6.0	5.3	6.0	5.6	5.0	4.8
Podlaskie	1 238	761	668	469	421	587	2.6	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.4	3.0
Pomorskie	4 027	2 630	2 115	1 253	1 396	1 715	8.6	7.4	7.0	6.7	8.0	8.6
Śląskie	9 865	8 358	6 591	4 349	3 958	4 185	21.0	23.6	21.9	23.4	22.8	21.1
Świętokrzyskie	904	633	652	326	307	288	1.9	1.8	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.5
Warmińsko-	2 350	1 672	1 316	744	740	808	5.0	4.7	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.1
Wielkopolskie	2 292	1 853	1 519	1 183	1 094	1 207	4.9	5.2	5.0	6.4	6.3	6.1
Zachodniopomorskie	1 082	978	986	739	565	633	2.3	2.8	3.3	4.0	3.3	3.2
<i>Total</i>	46	35 480	30 140	18 620	17 360	19 858	100	100	100	100	100	100.0

(a) only those migrants who changed their permanent residence.

Source: Central Statistical Office, Regional Data Bank, on-line access; data provided by CSO; based on Central Population Register (PESEL).

**Table 7. Emigrants (a) by sex and age. Poland 2006-2011.**

Age category	Actual numbers						Percentage of Total					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	<b>Men</b>											
Total	27 237	20 874	16 162	8 411	7 975	9 154	100	100	100	100	100	100
0-14	2 186	1 740	1 742	1 283	1 180	1 523	8.0	8.3	10.8	15.3	14.0	16.6
15-19	2 767	2 465	1 659	571	667	679	10.2	11.8	10.3	6.8	7.9	7.4
20-24	6 693	5 909	3 504	687	649	695	24.6	28.3	21.7	8.2	7.7	7.6
25-29	5 452	3 181	2 569	1 059	900	1 079	20.0	15.2	15.9	12.6	10.7	11.8
30-34	2 660	1 579	1 454	1 068	1 035	1 161	9.8	7.6	9.0	12.7	12.3	12.7
35-39	1 581	1 184	1 116	796	803	949	5.8	5.7	6.9	9.5	9.5	10.4
40-44	1 812	1 321	1 129	760	661	769	6.7	6.3	7.0	9.0	7.9	8.4
45-49	1 550	1 258	1 006	648	631	662	5.7	6.0	6.2	7.7	7.5	7.2
50-54	1 148	936	784	596	535	544	4.2	4.5	4.9	7.1	6.4	5.9
55-59	648	582	544	451	431	462	2.4	2.8	3.4	5.4	5.1	5.0
60-64	322	285	277	218	244	307	1.2	1.4	1.7	2.6	2.9	3.4
65-69	172	192	145	98	92	122	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.3
70+	246	242	233	176	147	202	0.9	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.7	2.2
	<b>Women</b>											
Total	19 699	14 606	13 978	10 209	9 385	10 704	100	100	100	100	100	100
0-14	2 070	1 647	1 629	1 263	1 123	1 414	10.5	11.3	11.7	12.4	12.0	13.2
15-19	838	597	542	424	368	436	4.3	4.1	3.9	4.2	3.9	4.1
20-24	3 301	1 706	1 255	824	736	697	16.8	11.7	9.0	8.1	7.8	6.5
25-29	4 209	2 511	2 273	1 646	1 443	1 610	21.4	17.2	16.3	16.1	15.4	15.0
30-34	2 285	1 891	2 146	1 665	1 502	1 762	11.6	12.9	15.4	16.3	16.0	16.5
35-39	1 612	1 411	1 557	1 089	1 052	1 199	8.2	9.7	11.1	10.7	11.2	11.2
40-44	1 549	1 378	1 301	913	839	919	7.9	9.4	9.3	8.9	8.9	8.6
45-49	1 300	1 169	966	700	652	709	6.6	8.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.6
50-54	988	879	831	604	544	666	5.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	6.2
55-59	629	578	541	438	463	492	3.2	4.0	3.9	4.3	4.9	4.6
60-64	302	295	302	208	245	325	1.5	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.6	3.0
65-69	232	176	168	112	118	121	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.1
70+	384	368	467	323	300	354	1.9	2.5	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3

(a) data refers to 'permanent' emigrants only.

Source: Kępińska 2007, Central Statistical Office: Demographic Yearbook 2008, 2009, 2012; data provided by CSO; based on Central Population Register (PESEL).

**Table 8. Emigrants (a) by sex and marital status. Poland 1994-2011.**

Year and age category	Marital status					
	Total	Single	Married	Widower or widow	Divorced	Unknown (c)
<b>Men</b>						
1986-90 (b)	13 734	7 347	5 988	82	317	-
1991-95 (b)	11 337	6 464	4 609	84	180	-
1996-2000 (b)	11 489	7 016	4 240	56	177	-
2001-2005 (b)	11 400	7 333	3 763	64	242	-
2006-2010 (b)	15 695	8 036	4 998	55	650	2 393
1994	13 451	7 891	5 306	84	170	-
1995	13 305	8 333	4 707	73	192	-
1996	10 882	6 936	3 744	54	148	-
1997	10 179	6 463	3 504	60	152	-
1998	11 607	7 294	4 094	46	173	-
1999	11 035	6 725	4 054	62	194	-
2000	13 740	7 661	5 802	57	220	-
2001	12 251	7 620	4 338	94	199	-
2002	12 411	8 382	3 761	48	220	-
2003	10 744	7 374	3 151	44	175	-
2004	9 716	6 217	3 207	54	238	-
2005	11 880	7 070	4 356	78	376	-
2006	27 237	13 849	8 126	76	887	4 299
2007	20 874	11 137	5 891	65	673	3 108
2008	13 978	8 117	4 865	59	645	2 476
2009	8 411	3 682	3 143	35	539	1 012
2010	7 975	3 393	2 965	41	507	1 069
<b>2011</b>						
0-14	1 523	1 348	-	-	-	175
15-19	679	516	-	-	-	163
20-24	695	502	51	-	3	139
25-29	1 079	595	315	-	29	140
30-34	1 161	427	540	-	87	107
35-39	949	218	525	-	126	80
40-44	769	144	449	2	102	72
45-49	662	112	403	3	79	65
50-54	544	62	383	5	54	40
55-59	462	32	332	9	58	31
60-64	307	22	220	11	25	29
65-69	122	6	83	6	15	12
70+	202	9	140	31	6	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 975</b>	<b>3 993</b>	<b>3 441</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>1 076</b>

<b>Women</b>						
1986-90 (b)	15 631	6 466	8 208	541	416	-
1991-95 (b)	11 206	4 973	5 447	452	334	-
1996-2000 (b)	10 957	4 865	5 376	353	363	-
2001-2005 (b)	10 566	5 283	4 588	314	382	-
2006-2010 (b)	13 575	5 077	5 776	284	752	1 686
1994	12 453	5 318	6 170	562	403	-
1995	13 039	6 167	5 932	489	451	-
1996	10 415	4 955	4 755	345	360	-
1997	10 043	4 739	4 632	327	345	-
1998	10 570	4 667	5 197	356	350	-
1999	10 501	4 578	5 224	349	350	-
2000	13 259	5 388	7 070	390	411	-
2001	11 117	4 850	5 570	302	395	-
2002	12 121	6 756	4 729	295	341	-
2003	10 069	5 616	3 843	268	342	-
2004	9 161	4 644	3 879	299	339	-
2005	10 362	4 548	4 917	406	491	-
2006	19 699	7 933	7 905	306	889	2 666
2007	14 606	5 422	6 469	305	738	1 672
2008	13 978	5 012	5 984	312	866	1 804
2009	10 209	3 716	4 410	262	635	1 186
2010	9 385	3 302	4 110	237	634	1 102
<b>2011</b>						
0-14	1 414	1 246	-	-	-	168
15-19	436	342	8	-	-	86
20-24	697	413	157	-	8	119
25-29	1 610	760	606	2	54	188
30-34	1 762	544	929	1	117	171
35-39	1 199	241	707	6	138	107
40-44	919	153	577	8	110	71
45-49	709	77	469	16	106	41
50-54	666	52	470	13	95	36
55-59	492	34	305	35	74	44
60-64	325	15	224	33	39	14
65-69	121	7	69	18	14	13
70+	354	11	139	99	35	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 704</b>	<b>3 895</b>	<b>4 660</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>1 101</b>

(a) data refers to 'permanent' emigrants only. (b) annual averages.

(c) since 2006 Polish citizens are no longer obliged to report their marital status while leaving Poland.

Source: Kępińska 2007, Demographic Yearbook (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012), data provided by CSO; based on Central Population Register – PESEL.

**Table 9. Emigrants staying temporarily abroad (above 3 months (a)) by sex and age in 2002 and 2011 (population census data)**

Age bracket	2002			2011		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
	<i>in thousands</i>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>786.1</b>	<b>363.0</b>	<b>423.1</b>	<b>2 016.5</b>	<b>986.2</b>	<b>1 030.3</b>
0-4 years	13.1	6.7	6.4	86.8	45.0	41.8
5-9	19.4	9.9	9.5	74.6	38.0	36.6
10-14	28.1	14.3	13.9	65.0	33.2	31.8
15-19	47.5	22.5	25.0	64.7	31.9	32.8
20-24	91.3	36.4	54.9	179.2	79.1	100.2
25-29	116.2	48.2	68.0	382.8	175.7	207.0
30-34	94.7	42.3	52.4	343.2	171.0	172.3
35-39	89.9	44.5	45.4	221.5	112.9	108.6
40-44	86.2	45.0	41.2	152.3	77.7	74.6
45-49	71.5	36.6	34.9	134.3	70.1	64.2
50-54	48.4	23.9	24.6	123.0	63.7	59.3
55-59	24.6	11.3	13.3	87.1	43.9	43.2
60-64	19.5	8.2	11.3	44.9	21.7	23.1
65-69	14.6	5.7	8.9	18.3	8.3	10.0
70-74	10.1	3.9	6.3	14.4	5.9	8.5
75-79	5.7	2.0	3.7	10.6	4.0	6.7
80 and more	4.5	1.4	3.1	13.7	4.1	9.7

(a) in 2002 migrants staying abroad above 2 months.

Source: CSO (2012a). Demographic Yearbook of Poland 2012, Warsaw: Central Statistical Office.

**Table 10. Emigrants staying temporarily abroad (above 3 months (a)) by sex and voivodeships in 2002 and 2011 (population census data)**

Voivodeship	2002			2011		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<i>in thousands</i>						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>786.1</b>	<b>363.0</b>	<b>423.1</b>	<b>2 016.5</b>	<b>986.2</b>	<b>1 030.3</b>
Dolnośląskie	60.0	25.5	34.4	181.4	87.6	93.8
Kujawsko-pomorskie	21.2	9.4	11.8	106.5	53.7	52.8
Lubelskie	31.1	13.8	17.3	112.2	54.1	58.1
Lubuskie	15.6	6.0	9.6	60.8	29.0	31.8
Łódzkie	17.8	7.6	10.1	73.5	36.3	37.2
Małopolskie	80.3	38.0	42.2	187.4	91.8	95.6
Mazowieckie	54.9	24.5	30.4	147.8	71.6	76.2
Opolskie	105.2	52.6	52.6	107.9	52.3	55.6
Podkarpackie	77.2	36.6	40.6	178.6	87.6	91.0
Podlaskie	55.0	26.0	29.0	109.9	53.6	56.3
Pomorskie	44.1	20.5	23.6	133.1	65.3	67.8
Śląskie	124.8	59.0	65.9	230.8	110.7	120.1
Świętokrzyskie	18.0	8.2	9.8	64.0	31.6	32.4
Warmińsko-mazurskie	32.7	14.8	17.9	108.2	53.7	54.5
Wielkopolskie	22.7	9.8	12.9	106.9	53.3	53.5
Zachodniopomorskie	25.4	10.6	14.8	107.4	53.9	53.5

(a) in 2002 migrants staying abroad above 2 months  
Source: CSO (2012a).

**Table 11. Emigrants staying temporarily abroad (above 3 months (a)) by sex and country of residence in 2002 and 2011 (census data)**

Voivodeship	2002			2011		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
	<i>in thousands</i>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>786.1</b>	<b>363.0</b>	<b>423.1</b>	<b>2 016.5</b>	<b>986.2</b>	<b>1 030.3</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>460.8</b>	<b>208.1</b>	<b>252.7</b>	<b>1 716.6</b>	<b>844.0</b>	<b>872.7</b>
EU countries	447.1	201.2	245.9	1642.8	803.4	839.4
<i>of which:</i>						
Austria	10.7	5.2	5.5	23.8	12.1	11.7
Belgium	14.0	5.7	8.2	49.2	24.3	25.0
Denmark	2.0	0.7	1.3	19.0	10.0	8.9
France	20.8	9.1	11.8	61.5	29.7	31.8
Greece	9.7	4.4	5.3	16.5	7.1	9.3
Spain	14.5	6.6	7.9	43.8	20.6	23.2
Ireland	1.5	0.9	0.6	128.7	67.3	61.5
Netherlands	9.7	4.3	5.4	105.8	57.3	48.4
Germany	294.3	139.1	155.2	435.0	202.9	232.2
Czech Republic	2.1	1.3	0.8	6.9	4.0	2.9
Sweden	5.8	2.3	3.5	34.6	18.1	16.6
United Kingdom	23.7	10.7	13.0	611.3	311.8	299.4
Italy	39.3	11.5	27.7	92.0	31.1	60.8
Other European countries	13.7	7.0	6.8	73.8	40.6	33.3
<i>of which:</i>						
Iceland	0.8	0.4	0.4	6.8	3.5	3.3
Norway	2.2	1.0	1.2	45.7	26.6	19.0
Switzerland	2.9	1.1	1.8	11.9	5.4	6.5
<b>Asia</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>North and Central America</b>	<b>187.5</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>98.2</b>	<b>268.6</b>	<b>126.9</b>	<b>141.6</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Canada	29.1	14.0	15.1	47.8	23.3	24.6
United States	158.0	75.1	82.9	218.8	102.6	116.1
<b>South America</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Africa</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Oceania</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.9</b>
<i>of which:</i>						
Australia	5.4	2.5	2.9	14.0	6.5	7.5
New Zealand	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.3	0.4
<b>Country unknown</b>	<b>124.3</b>	<b>58.6</b>	<b>65.7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

(a) in 2002 migrants staying abroad above 2 months  
Source: CSO (2012a).



**Table 12. Polish citizens staying abroad for longer than two months (three months since the first quarter of 2007) (d) who at the time of each Labour Force Survey (LFS) were the members of households in Poland by sex, duration of stay abroad and main activity abroad (in thousand; rounded). Poland 1994-2012 (a) (e)**

Date of LFS	All migrants			Duration of stay abroad		<i>of which:</i>			
	Total	Men	Women	less than 1 year	1 year and over	migrant workers			Per cent of total
						Total	Men	Women	
1994	(196)	(117)	(79)	(83)	(113)	-	-	-	-
February	167	97	70	71	96	-	-	-	-
May	207	121	86	78	129	144	89	56	69.5
August	209	131	78	88	121	150	100	50	71.7
November	200	119	81	95	105	139	90	49	69.5
1995	(183)	(110)	(73)	(89)	(94)	(133)	(87)	(46)	-
February	179	103	76	91	89	126	82	44	70.3
May	178	104	74	83	95	130	83	46	73.0
August	188	116	72	91	97	139	90	49	73.9
November	186	116	70	90	96	138	92	46	74.1
1996	(162)	(92)	(70)	(72)	(90)	(112)	(70)	(42)	-
February	155	86	69	62	93	109	68	40	70.3
May	168	97	71	79	89	119	75	44	70.8
August	165	94	71	79	86	112	70	42	67.8
November	160	92	68	69	91	108	68	40	67.5
1997	(144)	(83)	(61)	(62)	(82)	(101)	(63)	(38)	-
February	148	85	63	62	86	105	66	38	70.9
May	137	78	59	55	82	94	59	36	68.6
August	148	85	64	67	81	101	63	39	68.2
November	142	82	60	66	77	102	64	37	71.8
1998	(133)	(76)	(57)	(60)	(73)	(98)	(62)	(37)	-
February	130	73	57	62	68	96	60	36	73.8
May	137	76	61	62	75	100	62	38	72.9
August	141	83	58	63	79	104	66	38	73.7
November	125	73	52	55	70	93	59	34	74.4
1999									
February (b)	112	63	49	50	61	89	66	34	79.5
4th quarter	136	80	56	62	74	94	54	35	69.1
2000	(132)	(75)	(57)	(69)	(63)	(101)	(64)	(37)	-
1st quarter	127	75	52	62	65	94	65	29	74.0
2nd quarter	137	78	59	70	67	106	66	40	77.4
3rd quarter	124	65	59	65	59	95	56	39	76.6
4th quarter	142	82	60	80	61	108	70	38	76.0
2001	(168)	(97)	(71)	(99)	(68)	(132)	(83)	(49)	-
1st quarter	166	97	69	98	67	131	82	49	78.9
2nd quarter	169	99	70	104	64	134	85	49	79.3
3rd quarter	160	92	68	99	61	125	78	47	78.1
4th quarter	176	100	76	97	79	138	87	52	78.4
2002	(178)	(102)	(78)	(97)	(81)	(140)	(86)	(54)	-
1st quarter	166	97	69	95	71	134	83	51	80.7
2nd quarter	179	102	77	102	77	142	85	58	79.3
3rd quarter	186	106	80	98	88	148	90	57	79.6
4th quarter	180	104	77	91	89	136	85	51	75.6
2003	(206)	(112)	(94)	(109)	(97)	(157)	(93)	(64)	-
1st quarter	177	99	78	95	82	129	79	51	72.9

2nd quarter (c)	197	104	94	105	92	149	87	63	75.6
3rd quarter	222	117	104	116	106	175	100	75	78.8
4th quarter	226	126	100	118	108	172	105	68	76.1
2004	(253)	(143)	(111)	(152)	(107)	(208)	(124)	(84)	-
1st quarter	218	127	91	119	99	165	98	66	75.7
2nd quarter	238	135	104	153	85	193	120	74	81.1
3rd quarter	270	148	122	164	107	224	132	92	83.0
4th quarter	287	161	127	171	117	250	147	103	87.1
2005	(298)	(181)	(117)	(189)	(110)	(261)	(167)	(94)	-
1st quarter	268	154	114	170	98	232	141	91	86.6
2nd quarter	264	160	103	168	96	225	147	78	85.2
3rd quarter	310	196	114	196	115	271	180	91	87.4
4th quarter	350	212	138	220	130	315	199	116	90.0
2006	(423)	(271)	(152)	(245)	(179)	(387)	(259)	(127)	-
1st quarter	388	232	156	228	160	347	219	127	89.4
2nd quarter	389	257	133	226	163	353	245	108	90.7
3rd quarter	438	288	150	266	172	403	276	126	92.0
4th quarter	477	306	170	258	219	444	296	148	93.1
2007	(529)	(342)	(188)	(266)	(263)	(491)	(328)	(162)	-
1st quarter	520	327	193	264	256	477	311	166	91.7
2nd quarter	537	343	193	291	246	492	329	163	91.6
3rd quarter	522	345	178	270	252	490	333	157	93.9
4th quarter	537	351	186	239	298	503	340	163	93.7
2008 (d)	(502)	(320)	(182)	(160)	(342)	(466)	(308)	(160)	-
1st quarter	520	333	187	157	364	481	319	162	92.5
2nd quarter	508	323	185	174	334	466	310	157	91.7
3rd quarter	500	322	178	160	340	469	312	167	93.8
4th quarter	487	305	182	152	335	453	292	161	93.0
2009	(380)	(238)	(142)	(89)	(290)	(350)	(227)	(123)	-
1st quarter	437	276	161	103	334	405	264	141	92.7
2nd quarter	400	254	146	91	309	370	243	128	92.5
3rd quarter	362	226	136	83	279	336	216	120	92.8
4th quarter	319	196	124	80	239	290	185	104	90.9
2010									
1st quarter	303	189	113	74	228	269	177	92	88.8
2nd quarter	299	184	115	85	215	274	175	99	91.6
3rd quarter	267	165	102	69	198	243	156	87	91.0
4th quarter	275	175	100	72	202	249	166	83	90.5
2011									
1st quarter	296	188	107	67	228	270	177	93	91.2
2nd quarter	313	200	113	81	232	283	188	95	90.4
3rd quarter	298	195	102	82	216	.	.	.	.
4th quarter	286	189	97	84	202	.	.	.	.
2012									
1st quarter	282	186	97	76	207	.	.	.	.
2nd quarter	316	210	106	86	229	.	.	.	.

(a) Numbers in brackets denote annual averages based on four surveys.

(b) LFS was temporarily discontinued after February 1999.

(c) Since the second quarter of 2003, data from the LFS were adjusted on the basis of the 2002 population census. Earlier data were adjusted on the basis of the 1988 population census. Consequently, caution needs to be exercised in comparing data across the two periods.

(d) Since 2008 the definition of migrant has been slightly changed. Since then data refer to citizens staying abroad for longer than three months and intending to stay there at least 12 months.

(e) First two quarters.

Source: Kępińska 2007, Labour Force Survey (CSO).

**Table 13. Polish citizens staying abroad for longer than two months (three months since 2007; in thousand). Poland 2002-2011 (as of December 31) (a).**

Destination	Population census (May 2002)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>1 000</b>	<b>1 450</b>	<b>1 950</b>	<b>2 270</b>	<b>2 210</b>	<b>2 100</b>	<b>2 000</b>	<b>2 060</b>
<i>of which:</i> Europe	461	770	1 200	1 610	1 925	1 887	1 765	1 685	1 754
<i>of which:</i> European Union (b)	451	750	1 170	1 550	1 860	1 820	1 690	1 607	1 670
<i>of which:</i>									
Austria	11	15	25	34	39	40	36	29	25
Belgium	14	13	21	28	31	33	34	45	47
Cyprus	.	.	.	.	4	4	3	3	3
Czech Republic	.	.	.	.	8	10	9	7	7
Denmark	.	.	.	.	17	19	20	19	21
Finland	0,3	0,4	0,7	3	4	4	3	3	2
France	21	30	44	49	55	56	60	60	62
Germany	294	385	430	450	490	490	465	440	470
Greece	10	13	17	20	20	20	16	16	15
Ireland	2	15	76	120	200	180	140	131	120
Italy	39	59	70	85	87	88	88	92	94
Netherlands	10	23	43	55	98	108	98	92	95
Portugal	0,3	0,5	0,6	1	1	1	1	1	1
Spain	14	26	37	44	80	83	84	48	40
Sweden	6	11	17	25	27	29	31	33	36
United Kingdom	24	150	340	580	690	650	595	580	625
Other European countries	10	20	30	60	65	67	75	78	85
<i>of which:</i>									
Norway	.	.	.	.	36	38	45	50	56

(a) Except of 2002 census data

(b) since 2007 including Bulgaria and Romania.

(.)no data available.

Source: CSO 2012c (Central Statistical Office estimates).

**Table 14. Arrivals of foreigners (in thousand). Poland 1980, 1985-2011.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Arrivals</b>
1980	7 030
1985	3 410
1986	3 843
1987	4 756
1988	6 210
1989	8 233
1990	18 211
1991	36 846
1992	49 015
1993	60 951
1994	74 253
1995	82 244
1996	87 439
1997	87 817
1998	88 592
1999	89 118
2000	84 515
2001	61 431
2002	50 735
2003	52 130
2004	61 918
2005	64 606
2006	65 115
2007	66 208
2008	59 935
2009	53 840
2010	58 340
2011	60 745

Source: Border Guard, after Institute of Tourism  
([www.intur.com.pl](http://www.intur.com.pl)).

**Table 15. Arrivals of foreigners (in thousand); top nationalities. Poland 2004-2011.**

Nationality	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
							Number	Percent of total	<i>Of which:</i> <b>Tourists</b>
Total	64 606	65 115	66 208	59 935	53 840	58 340	60 745	100.0	13 350
Countries bordering Poland	60 543	60 451	60 982	53 690	49 320	48 770	55 750	91.8	8 815
EU-15	39 503	39 623	40 823	37 205	28 545	28 540	28 470	46.9	7 045
EU New Member States (a)	13 354	12 872	13 086	14 705	16 800	18 845	19 518	32.6	1 725
Austria	282	304	318	320	325	345	355	0.6	315
Belarus	3 651	3 912	3 861	2 130	2 360	3 090	3 450	5.7	1 220
Czech Republic	7 855	7 102	7 292	7 820	8 180	9 240	10 840	17.8	195
France	220	230	258	240	240	260	280	0.5	240
Germany	37 436	37 192	38 103	34 630	26 070	25 860	25 740	42.4	4 590
Hungary	249	268	273	255	225	220	230	0.4	200
Italy	247	276	327	275	255	285	315	0.5	285
Latvia	345	410	485	540	390	350	360	0.6	300
Lithuania	1 344	1 459	1 392	1 930	2 640	2 690	2 420	4.0	630
Netherlands	335	410	363	355	335	370	390	0.6	350
Norway	81	102	142	145	120	.	.	.	.
Russian Federation	1 599	1 722	1 626	1 290	1 210	1 530	1 850	3.0	500
Slovak Republic	3 378	3 422	3 210	3 740	5 040	6 010	5 620	9.2	100
Switzerland	42	47	59	65	60	.	.	.	.
Sweden	214	224	222	210	190	195	185	0.3	160
Turkey	34	39	51	55	55	.	.	.	.
Ukraine	5 279	5 642	5 444	3 320	3 820	5 030	5 830	9.6	1 580
United Kingdom	345	455	548	555	500	540	500	0.8	460
United States	340	354	331	270	230	265	270	0.4	250

(a) since 2007 including Bulgaria and Romania.

( . ) no data available.

Source: Kępińska (2007), Border Guard, after Institute of Tourism ([www.intur.com.pl](http://www.intur.com.pl)).

**Table 16. Polish and foreign nationals who arrived from abroad and who registered for permanent stay, by country of previous residence. Poland 2005-2011.**

Country of previous residence	Total					Of which: Women				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	14 995	15 275	17 424	15 246	15 524	6 492	6 291	6 279	6 235	6 661
(EU-15)	10 463	10 692	12 751	10 928	10 905	4 185	4 049	4 129	4 183	4 451
(EU-25)	.	10 817	12 918	11 091	11 076	.	4 107	4 221	4 270	4 541
(EU-27)	.	10 840	12 934	11 115	11 104	.	4 122	4 226	4 280	4 550
(former USSR)	1 382	.	.	1 121	.	917	.	.	.	.
Europe (b)	12 040	12 324	14 369	12 463	12 623	5 163	4 996	5 005	5 016	5 430
Austria	264	115	300	289	306	116	115	101	122	133
Belarus	230	222	212	173	209	160	144	136	104	129
Belgium	127	151	166	172	183	61	57	48	75	83
Bulgaria	23	15	23	17	13	9	11	10	7	5
Czech Republic	42	48	43	51	60	15	22	17	20	30
Cyprus	15	14	29	13	26	5	5	14	8	9
Denmark	61	102	147	167	133	24	41	50	68	60
France	394	331	326	388	464	173	138	141	150	216
Germany	3 913	3 174	3 175	2 677	2 655	1 659	1 324	1 096	1 054	1 043
Greece	104	108	143	127	149	47	45	56	57	69
Hungary	13	23	36	22	27	10	12	25	11	13
Iceland	25	46	81	82	62	13	11	27	33	27
Ireland	589	917	1458	1 200	1 130	193	300	440	421	440
Italy	412	428	485	518	507	223	201	214	217	231
Lithuania	20	14	15	27	26	9	6	12	19	18
Moldova	12	10	17	11	24	7	7	11	10	11
Netherlands	285	360	518	393	395	88	112	100	130	124
Norway	89	126	237	205	273	32	38	72	69	109
Romania	9	8	13	7	15	7	4	4	3	4
Russian Federation	158	156	102	128	139	106	84	61	86	86
Slovak Republic	7	14	25	36	21	1	5	14	20	13
Spain	213	273	359	337	340	81	100	131	337	154
Sweden	156	166	224	212	207	71	63	81	90	104
Switzerland	72	62	74	72	83	34	23	26	31	49
Turkey	45	38	38	50	58	10	4	6	7	10
Ukraine	777	776	609	599	619	547	549	414	386	438
United Kingdom	3 913	4 365	5 408	4 409	4 378	1 435	1 542	1 655	1 652	1 767
Other	72	262	106	81	121	27	33	43	.	55
Africa	121	117	153	187	260	39	31	34	45	62
America	2 245	2 287	2 238	2 023	2 042	1 043	1 021	964	936	900
Canada	493	391	364	354	379	238	178	165	174	172
United States	1 737	1 851	1 823	1 601	1 568	786	823	776	730	696
Other	15	45	51	68	95	19	20	23	32	15
Asia	379	360	485	402	436	161	159	196	161	191
Armenia	68	65	111	90	68	24	26	47	35	26
China	14	11	13	11	26	6	4	7	4	11
India	15	14	19	29	22	3	5	3	6	3
Israel	21	22	17	16	15	4	8	4	4	4
Kazakhstan	90	77	78	56	69	48	45	49	34	43
Mongolia	12	8	7	13	18	7	4	6	8	11
Syria	8	11	13	7	14	2	5	3	2	4

Uzbekistan	10	16	16	8	18	8	11	12	4	14
Vietnam	63	53	117	50	55	21	19	31	22	20
Other	78	83	94	122	131	38	32	34	.	55
Oceania	173	176	176	163	158	84	16	78	73	75
Australia	161	163	168	151	147	79	16	77	69	72
Other	12	13	8	12	11	5	-	1	4	3
Unknown	9	1	3	8	5	2	-	2	4	3

(.) no data  
available

Source: Kępińska (2007), Central Statistical Office, Regional Data Bank, on-line access, based on Central Population Register (PESEL).

**Table 17. Polish and foreign nationals who arrived from abroad and who registered for permanent stay, by provinces of destination. Poland2005-2011.**

Province of origin	Numbers					Percentage of total				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Dolnośląskie	1 785	1 771	1 940	1 813	1 660	11.9	11.6	11.1	11.9	10.7
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	652	588	663	526	582	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.7
Lubelskie	537	524	576	421	407	3.6	3.4	3.3	2.8	2.6
Lubuskie	490	520	561	557	528	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.7	3.4
Łódzkie	509	487	576	533	504	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.2
Małopolskie	1 646	1 756	2 076	1 966	2 011	11	11.5	11.9	12.9	13.0
Mazowieckie	1 334	1 394	1 453	1 282	1 441	8.9	9.1	8.3	8.4	9.3
Opolskie	1 068	889	1 010	726	724	7.1	5.8	5.8	4.8	4.7
Podkarpackie	909	1 029	1 151	907	986	6.1	6.7	6.6	5.9	6.3
Podlaskie	415	410	400	521	511	2.8	2.7	2.3	3.4	3.3
Pomorskie	1 287	1 280	1 453	1 296	1 376	8.6	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.9
Śląskie	2 046	2 351	2 715	2 214	2 165	13.6	15.4	15.6	14.5	13.9
Świętokrzyskie	346	335	391	329	391	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.6
Warmińsko- Wielkopolskie	621	577	674	755	764	4.1	3.8	3.9	5.0	4.9
Wielkopolskie	599	643	899	661	725	4	4.2	5.2	4.3	4.7
Zachodniopomorskie	751	721	886	739	749	5	4.7	5.1	4.8	4.8
<i>Total</i>	14	15	17 424	15 246	15 524	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Central Statistical Office, Regional Data Bank, on-line access, based on Central Population Register



**Table 18. Polish and foreign nationals who arrived from abroad and who registered for permanent stay, by sex and age. Poland, 2005-2011.**

Age group	Actual numbers								Percentage of total		
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
<b>Men</b>											
Total	4800	4873	5938	8 503	8 984	11145	9 011	8863	100	100	100
0-4	(a)	(a)	(a)	709	(a)	(a)	2 204	2496	(a)	34.8	28.2
5-9	(a)	(a)	(a)	178	(a)	(a)	237	294	(a)	3.5	3.3
10-14	913	1032	770	128	1 535	2 297	126	147	20.6	2.4	1.7
15-19	161	176	180	225	252	255	211	239	2.3	3.4	2.7
20-24	388	430	892	1 449	1 689	2 472	1 003	571	22.2	5.1	6.4
25-29	545	604	991	1 885	1 858	2 619	1 791	1478	23.5	10.5	16.7
30-34	564	470	626	891	1 014	1 039	992	1020	9.3	8.8	11.5
35-39	385	382	416	519	545	531	546	608	4.8	5.2	6.9
40-44	369	326	411	434	407	375	361	392	3.4	3.9	4.4
45-49	423	371	448	552	424	373	365	305	3.3	4.0	3.4
50-54	331	320	416	549	451	413	352	382	3.7	5.4	4.3
55-59	232	245	309	403	324	318	306	318	2.9	4.8	3.6
60-64	178	188	198	260	222	201	242	289	1.8	3.6	3.3
65-69	165	150	152	207	149	146	148	168	1.3	1.8	1.9
70+	146	179	129	114	114	106	127	156	1.0	2.8	1.8
<b>Women</b>											
Total	4 695	4 491	4 491	4 864	6 492	6 291	6 235	6661	100	100	100
0-4	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	716	(a)	2 170	2411	(a)	24.5	36.2
5-9	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	138	(a)	221	276	(a)	2.6	4.1
10-14	909	948	948	790	92	1 575	148	158	35.8	1.4	2.4
15-19	170	183	183	152	169	180	212	214	2.7	2.3	3.2
20-24	275	314	314	424	681	564	316	288	6.1	11.1	4.3
25-29	518	520	520	625	1 117	897	654	591	12.3	19.9	8.9
30-34	515	466	466	486	634	656	549	632	9.3	11.0	9.5
35-39	398	340	340	350	441	395	323	401	5.9	6.1	6.0
40-44	386	312	312	333	405	315	246	254	4.2	4.0	3.8
45-49	411	371	371	433	506	382	252	243	5.0	4.1	3.6
50-54	364	321	321	435	497	453	335	314	5.4	3.9	4.7
55-59	248	235	235	370	441	333	301	321	5.2	3.4	4.8
60-64	162	154	154	171	266	236	222	253	3.6	2.7	3.8
65-69	117	133	133	129	177	116	110	113	1.8	1.6	1.7
70+	222	194	194	166	212	189	176	192	2.6	1.4	2.9

(a) included in 10-14 bracket

Source: Central Statistical Office, Regional Data Bank, on-line access, based on Central Population Register (PESEL)

**Table 19. Polish and foreign nationals who arrived from abroad and who registered for permanent stay, by age and marital status. Poland, 1994-2011.**

Year and age category	Marital status					
	Total	Bachelor or spinster	Married	Widower or widow	Divorced	Unknown (b)
<b>Men</b>						
1991-95 (a)	3 424	1 164	1 968	73	208	-
1996-2000 (a)	4 118	1 758	2 091	76	193	-
2001-2005 (a)	3 416	2 039	1 789	62	193	-
2006-2010 (a)	8 716	4 296	2 700	32	311	1 378
2011	8 863	4 415	2 502	41	342	1 563
1994	3 569	1 200	2 070	68	231	-
1995	4 321	1 476	2 504	80	261	-
1996	4 165	1 489	2 390	76	210	-
1997	4 279	1 597	2 400	75	207	-
1998	4 400	1 804	2 291	84	221	-
1999	3 853	2 003	1 619	79	152	-
2000	3 893	1 896	1 753	67	177	-
2001	3 505	1 735	1 539	63	168	-
2002	3 529	1 807	1 465	69	188	-
2003	371	1 838	1 642	51	179	-
2004	4 800	2 327	2 215	69	189	-
2005	4 873	2 489	2 084	58	242	-
2006	5 938	2 563	2 199	35	259	882
2007	8 503	3 966	2 981	34	357	1 165
2008	8 984	4 430	2 793	25	324	1 412
2009	11 145	5 998	2 917	31	291	1 908
2010	9 011	4 523	2 609	33	322	1 524
2011						
0-14	2 937	2 357	-	-	-	580
15-19	239	166	-	-	-	73
20-24	571	373	57	-	-	141
25-29	1 478	791	437	1	13	236
30-34	1 020	340	462	0	47	171
35-39	608	148	330	0	51	79
40-44	392	75	214	3	40	60
45-49	305	48	174	2	35	46
50-54	382	46	251	3	35	47
55-59	318	33	187	4	50	44
60-64	289	20	184	9	41	35
65-69	168	9	106	9	20	24
70+	156	9	100	10	10	27
Total	8 863	4 415	2 502	41	342	1 563

							<b>Women</b>
1991-95 (a)	3 077	795	1 809	255	212	-	
1996-2000 (a)	3 959	1 307	2 119	313	219	-	
2001-2005 (a)	3 740	1 519	1 793	231	198	-	
2006-2010 (a)	6 032	2 353	2 472	142	250	815	
2011	6 661	2 231	2 086	135	257	1 157	
1994	3 338	824	1 989	312	213	-	
1995	3 800	969	2 272	301	258	-	
1996	4 021	1 063	2 364	350	244	-	
1997	4 147	1 212	2 386	331	218	-	
1998	4 516	1 366	2 574	329	247	-	
1999	3 672	1 525	1 682	284	181	-	
2000	3 438	1 371	1 591	273	203	-	
2001	3 120	1 269	1 397	252	202	-	
2002	3 058	1 324	1 304	220	210	-	
2003	3 338	1 407	1 541	229	161	-	
2004	4 695	1 773	2 506	221	195	-	
2005	4 491	1 822	2 216	233	220	-	
2006	4 864	1 625	2 377	134	219	509	
2007	6 492	2 306	3 049	182	275	680	
2008	6 291	2 337	2 688	136	275	855	
2009	6 279	2 633	2 247	127	255	1 017	
2010	6 235	2 862	1 998	133	228	1 014	
	2011						
0-14	2845	2231	0	0	0	614	
15-19	214	139	0	0	0	75	
20-24	288	143	66	0	1	78	
25-29	591	204	289	1	16	81	
30-34	632	161	354	3	43	71	
35-39	401	68	247	2	34	50	
40-44	254	21	164	3	37	29	
45-49	243	7	179	4	26	27	
50-54	314	12	232	11	23	36	
55-59	321	18	226	13	26	38	
60-64	253	9	168	25	29	22	
65-69	113	3	67	21	11	11	
70+	192	10	94	52	11	25	
Total	6 661	2 231	2 086	135	257	1 157	

(a) annual average.

(b) since 2006 it is no longer obligatory to report marital status.

Source: Kępińska 2007, Demographic Yearbook (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011), based on Central Population Register – PESEL.

**Table 20. Estimates on the number of foreigners based on the Labour Force Survey (a) 2010-2011 (in thousand).**

Date of LFS	Non-Polish citizens			Foreign born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
2010						
1st quarter	50	25	25	298	116	182
2nd quarter	50	27	23	294	109	185
3rd quarter	39	17	22	278	101	177
4th quarter	42	20	21	272	109	162
2011						
1st quarter	44	25	19	273	112	162
2nd quarter	41	22	18	271	104	167

(a) data refers to foreigners living in individual dwellings.

Source: Central Statistical Office, Labour Force Survey.

**Table 21. Polish and foreign nationals who arrived from abroad and who registered for temporary stay above two months (above three months since 2006). Poland 1997-2009, 2011 (as of December 31).**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Urban areas</b>	<b>Rural areas</b>
1997	17 976	.	.	.	.
1998	27 542	.	.	.	.
1999	39 303	.	.	.	.
2000	43 623	.	.	.	.
2001	43 501	.	.	.	.
2002	47 255	24 218	23 037	35 446	11 809
2003	42 356	21 123	21 224	33 307	9 049
2004	44 733	22 776	21 957	34 823	9 910
2005	42 417	21 618	20 799	33 274	9 143
2006	40 695	22 019	18 676	31 934	8 761
2007	46 778	26 521	20 257	37 019	9 759
2008	57 560	33 575	23 985	45 022	12 538
2009	59 233	33 992	25 241	45 953	13 280
2011	65 943	37 861	28 082	50757	15 186
<i>Of which:</i>					
Foreign nationals					
2005	39 673	20 223	19 450	31 099	8 574
2006	37 585	20 396	17 189	29 510	8 075
2007	42 824	.	.	.	.
2008	52 804	31 117	21 687	41 576	11 228
2009	53 552	31 012	22 540	41 812	11 740

(.) no data available.

Source: Demographic Yearbook Central Statistical Office (2008, 2009), Kępińska (2007), based on Central Population Register PESEL.

**Table 22. Polish and foreign nationals who arrived from abroad and who registered for temporary stay above three months since 2006 by sex and nationality. Poland 2006-2009, 2011 (as of December 31).**

Continents and countries	2006	2007	2008	2009	2011	<i>Of which women:</i>		
						2008	2009	2011
Total	40 695	46 778	57 560	59 233	65 943	23 985	25 241	28 082
Polish nationals	3 061	3 915	4 721	5 648	.	2 286	2 693	.
Foreign nationals	37 585	42 824	52 804	53 552	.	21 687	22 540	.
Of which from:								
Europe	26 821	30 128	36 327	36 322	46 085	16 071	16 678	20 717
Albania	100	.	167	175	97	40	37	20
Austria	317	361	438	427	752	155	152	300
Belarus	3 107	3 306	4 103	4 007	4 317	2 055	2 158	2235
Belgium	222	262	323	289	338	86	62	88
Bulgaria	670	846	870	1029	1 209	311	409	482
Croatia	84	.	71	74	106	17	20	29
Czech Republic	191	.	313	307	497	155	148	237
Denmark	236	299	339	293	292	99	81	84
France	1 142	1 210	1 311	1 174	1 365	385	332	439
Germany	2 900	3 345	3 483	3 247	5 506	799	746	1813
Greece	75	.	121	130	193	19	20	36
Hungary	94	.	145	142	217	63	49	73
Ireland	66	.	115	138	261	21	28	71
Italy	661	851	1 104	1 202	1 572	110	116	238
Lithuania	285	344	430	417	466	288	277	288
Latvia	93	.	118	139	150	84	107	108
Moldova	394	748	769	472	520	249	206	215
Netherlands	561	726	942	679	769	185	109	167
Norway	68	.	117	127	148	19	26	47
Portugal	80	.	184	206	249	41	38	37
Romania	198	.	261	386	547	120	169	206
Russian Federation	1 909	1 804	2 342	2 579	2 289	1 362	1 519	1380
Serbia Montenegro	162	.	160	176	134	43	50	45
Slovak Republic	186	261	335	343	485	187	14	219
Spain	200	.	326	319	554	104	93	147
Sweden	327	341	416	380	517	147	143	218
Turkey	765	971	1 439	1 654	1 901	271	350	456
Ukraine	10 660	11 370	13 885	14 206	18 216	8 235	8 702	10326
United Kingdom	785	995	1 193	1 143	1 789	285	234	535
Other	283	2 088	507	507	629	136	283	178
Africa	1 305	1 553	1 904	2 144	2 180	287	293	333
Algeria	84	.	122	126	158	6	5	15
Cameroon	73	.	99	117	94	24	16	12
Egypt	154	.	247	316	387	10	10	18
Kenya	71	.	48	48	54	21	25	32
Morocco	70	.	127	152	135	9	11	12
Nigeria	257	385	455	475	443	52	49	44
South Africa	65	.	88	87	89	29	26	29
Tunisia	182	.	275	341	380	21	22	30
Other	349	1 168	443	482	440	115	129	141
America	1 912	1 926	2 001	1 972	2 685	739	670	986
Brazil	284	158	169	209	202	66	72	74
Canada	180	221	184	176	313	74	63	119

United States	1 109	1 164	1 219	1 079	1 565	452	355	581
Other	339	383	429	508	605	147	180	212
Asia	7 458	9 112	12 431	12 996	14 791	4 547	4 857	5978
Armenia	1 205	1 364	1 650	1 501	1 520	815	772	781
Azerbaijan	66	.	86	78	70	36	35	23
China	665	953	1 826	2 170	2 776	654	800	1133
Georgia	107	.	214	215	204	70	92	93
India	661	1 066	1 278	1 270	1 236	272	325	321
Iraq	99	.	122	176	241	29	46	74
Israel	110	.	144	147	191	50	50	72
Japan	485	601	734	697	668	295	265	283
Kazakhstan	331	278	297	303	397	204	212	256
Lebanon	63	.	52	50	66	3	4	18
Mongolia	303	322	392	403	368	215	222	203
Nepal	82	.	271	405	315	44	35	75
Pakistan	100	.	141	134	140	11	10	11
Philippines	72	.	147	239	195	88	97	120
South Korea	548	.	839	860	947	347	360	392
Syria	144	.	156	166	182	25	36	44
Taiwan	91	.	167	202	225	61	72	91
Uzbekistan	96	.	284	224	277	62	65	56
Vietnam	1 645	1 800	2 596	2 523	3 226	982	1001	1368
Other	585	2 728	1 035	1 233	1 547	284	358	564
Oceania	45	105	141	118	191	43	42	191
Stateless	23	26	26	28	.	9	7	.
Unknown	26	13	9	5	11	3	1	5

(.) no data available.

Source: Demographic Yearbook Central Statistical Office (2008, 2009), Kępińska (2007), based on Central Population Register PESEL.

**Table 23. Polish and foreign nationals who arrived from abroad and who registered for temporary stay above three months by sex and age. Poland 2011 (as of December 31).**

Age group	2011		
	Total	Men	Women
Total	<b>65 943</b>	<b>37 861</b>	<b>28 082</b>
0-4	2 422	1 263	1 159
5-9	1 801	935	866
10-14	1 659	821	838
15-19	4 325	2 008	2 317
20-24	8 142	4 253	3 889
25-29	9 881	5 843	4 038
30-34	8 853	5 375	3 478
35-39	7 294	4 402	2 892
40-44	5 959	3 736	2 223
45-49	4 625	2 838	1 787
50-54	3 625	2 102	1 523
55-59	2 489	1 441	1 048
60-64	1 874	1 099	775
65-69	1 251	813	438
70-74	877	512	365
75-79	401	205	196
80+	465	215	250

(.) no data available



**Table 24. Residence permits by type of permit and sex. Poland 1998-2011.**

Positive decisions	Permit for a fixed period	Permit to settle	Long-term resident's EC residence permit	Registrations of stay of EU citizens (a) (b)	EU temporary residence permit for family members (a) (b)	EU residence permit (a) (b)	EU residence permit for family members (a) (b)	Total
1998	4 893	288	-	-	-	-	-	5 181
1999	16 811	512	-	-	-	-	-	17 323
2000	15 039	858	-	-	-	-	-	15 897
2001	20 787	679	-	-	-	-	-	21 466
2002	29 641	602	-	-	-	-	-	30 243
2003	28 590	1 735	-	-	-	-	-	30 325
2004	25 461	4 365	-	1 154	.	5 871	.	36 851
2005	22 626	3 589	37	2 183	.	10 077	.	38 512
2006	22 376	3 255	995	920	.	6 321	.	33 867
2007	23 240	3 124	804	13 139	143	184	3	40 637
2008	28 865	3 625	715	7 237	116	561	4	41 123
2009	30 563	2 936	1 271	6 364	143	1 577	29	42 854
2010	30 451	3 336	775	6 863	128	1 805	17	43 375
2011	29 650	3 733	765	7 058	124	1 220	6	42 556
<i>of which:</i>								
<i>Women</i>								
2005	11 909	2 153	14	656	.	2 222	.	16 954
2006	11 337	1 989	436	213	.	1 12	.	15 095
2007	11 460	1 981	368	3 131	103	69	2	17 114
2008	13 648	2 122	323	1 700	.	353	.	.
2009	13 985	1 586	544	1 808	96	425	.	18 444*
2010	13 834	1 733	372	.	.	.	.	.
2011	13 206	1 863	361	.	.	.	.	.

( . ) Not available.

\* the number does not include EU permit for family members due to lack of data.

(a) Since August 26, 2006 the number of EU nationals and their family members who registered their stay in Poland of above three months.

(b) Data in 2007 include the number of registrations for 2007 as a whole and for the period between August 26, 2006 and December 31, 2006. Accordingly, data in 2006 include number of permits issued between January 1, 2006 and August 25, 2006.

Source: Office for Foreigners.

**Table 25. Work permits granted individually and to sub-contracting foreign companies. Poland 1995-2011.**

Year	Work permits granted individually (a)				Work permits granted to sub-contracting foreign companies (a)	
	Total	Women	of which: Extensions		Total	Up to 3 months
			Total	Women		
1995	10 441	.	.	.	920	.
1996	11 915	.	.	.	1 753	.
1997	15 307	.	.	.	2 191	.
1998	16 928	.	.	.	3 831	.
1999	17 116	.	.	.	3 502	.
2000	17 802	.	.	.	1 86	145
2001	17 038	.	.	.	2 755	411
2002	22 776	8 541	.	.	1 867	1 001
2003	18 841	6 25	10 19	3 607	990	289
2004	12 381	3 559	5 41	1 494	798	43
2005	10 304	1 786	4 399	830	847	29
2006	10 754	2 376	4 125	735	1 309	30
2007	12 153	2 778	4 486	1 02	2 645	168
2008	18 022	4 383	5 632	1 423	3 711	100
2009	29 340	8 850	8 534	2 467	3 070	179
2010	34 794	.	.	.	1 828	.
2011	39 466	12 383	8 149	2 874	1 342	.

(a) since 2011 'work permits granted individually' refers to work permits of 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'E' type, whereas 'work permits granted to sub-contracting foreign companies' refers to work permits of 'D' type only.

(.) Not available.

Source: Kępińska 2007, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy.

**Table 26. Work permits granted individually (a) by province of destination. Poland 2007-2011.**

Province of destination	Total					Of which: Women				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
	<i>All permits</i>									
Total	12 153	18 022	29 340	34 794	39 466	2 778	4 383	8 523	.	12 383
Dolnośląskie	851	1 139	1 674	1 695	2 095	172	179	328	.	.
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	362	367	557	696	548	81	95	145	.	.
Lubelskie	272	381	553	619	815	85	83	99	.	.
Lubuskie	509	1 102	1 528	1 282	1 481	60	214	511	.	.
Łódzkie	574	846	1 265	972	821	119	192	200	.	.
Małopolskie	672	838	2 000	2 237	2 034	200	312	669	.	.
Mazowieckie	5 372	7 76	13 979	18 498	22 063	1 362	2 155	4 818	.	.
Opolskie	701	977	677	650	891	85	228	133	.	.
Podkarpackie	235	348	450	389	493	76	100	146	.	.
Podlaskie	209	287	326	350	311	48	57	56	.	.
Pomorskie	613	1 067	2 326	2 272	2 344	129	165	550	.	.
Śląskie	690	813	1 345	2 161	1 781	130	151	257	.	.
Świętokrzyskie	72	182	386	453	511	20	69	123	.	.
Warmińsko-Mazurskie	106	195	267	216	275	36	54	92	.	.
Wielkopolskie	500	1 157	1 387	1 724	2 214	117	238	235	.	.
Zachodniopomorskie	415	563	620	580	789	58	91	161	.	.
	<i>First work permits</i>									
Total	7 667	12 390	20 806	.	.	1 758	2 960	6 056	.	.
Dolnośląskie	437	769	1 102	.	.	113	115	227	.	.
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	280	249	413	.	.	59	64	108	.	.
Lubelskie	181	246	390	.	.	40	33	77	.	.
Lubuskie	428	913	1 068	.	.	28	168	389	.	.
Łódzkie	363	612	972	.	.	59	130	127	.	.
Małopolskie	462	554	1 524	.	.	147	215	491	.	.
Mazowieckie	2 97	4 761	9 485	.	.	920	1 400	3 332	.	.
Opolskie	558	746	367	.	.	60	186	70	.	.
Podkarpackie	151	210	302	.	.	38	53	103	.	.
Podlaskie	111	157	184	.	.	12	27	29	.	.
Pomorskie	457	855	1 871	.	.	75	98	450	.	.
Śląskie	489	602	1 052	.	.	77	107	206	.	.
Świętokrzyskie	31	140	273	.	.	12	61	68	.	.
Warmińsko-Mazurskie	60	140	165	.	.	15	34	59	.	.
Wielkopolskie	322	939	1 203	.	.	62	195	194	.	.
Zachodniopomorskie	367	497	435	.	.	41	74	126	.	.

(a) since 2011 'work permits granted individually' refers to work permits of 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'E' type, whereas 'work permits granted to sub-contracting foreign companies' refers to work permits of 'D' type only.

Source: Kępińska 2007, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

**Table 27. Repatriation to Poland in 1997-2011.**

Category	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Applications concerning repatriation	671	898	1014	1026	1083	801	586	171	307	348	239	178	240	125	233
Applications for a repatriation visa	-	808	937	929	956	717	552	151	276	302	200	139	206	91	201
Applications of members of families having nationality other than Polish for temporary residence permit (a)	-	90	77	97	127	84	34	20	31	46	39	39	34	34	32
Repatriation visas issued	316	281	278	662	804	613	301	269	252	239	248	204	164	139	178
Persons who arrived within repatriation	267	399	362	944	1	832	455	372	335	327	281	260	214	175	229

(a) Since September 2003 applications for settlement permit.

Source: Office for Foreigners (after CSO)

**Table 28. Repatriation visas to Poland issued in 1997-2011 by countries of previous residence of repatriates.**

Country of previous residence	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	316	281	278	662	804	613	301	269	252	239	248	204	164	139	178
Armenia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Belarus	-	10	15	45	140	127	43	39	30	25	18	13	5	8	18
Czech Republic	-	-	-	-	2	4	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	3	3	3	-	8	4	3
Germany	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Kazakhstan	316	245	172	361	216	194	156	122	155	125	161	143	90	84	92
Lithuania	-	-	11	16	20	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Latvia	-	1	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Moldova	-	1	2	10	9	5	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1
Russian Federation	-	7	8	10	36	31	11	35	32	40	38	25	32	23	31
Ukraine	-	15	69	210	381	245	77	56	23	27	16	8	13	15	20
Uzbekistan	-	2	-	-	-	2	8	15	5	14	11	14	6	5	12

( . ) not available

Source: Office for Foreigners (after CSO)

**Table 29. Repatriation by provinces of settlement. Poland 1998-2011.**

Province	Persons settled										
	1998-2011	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	2479	832	455	372	335	327	281	260	214	175	229
Dolnośląskie	300	68	43	41	34	62	45	24	21	22	27
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	75	31	12	6	19	8	13	5	2	7	5
Lubelskie	186	43	40	23	17	12	15	3	6	4	5
Lubuskie	79	44	10	9	4	4	9	5	10	4	6
Łódzkie	146	33	12	10	21	12	18	16	43	27	20
Małopolskie	270	77	50	53	32	21	23	27	25	15	15
Mazowieckie	474	152	60	45	37	68	49	42	37	38	58
Opolskie	127	29	26	53	22	38	31	29	13	5	5
Podkarpackie	59	36	38	5	13	12	2	-	8	1	1
Podlaskie	131	96	37	28	38	21	20	1	3	7	6
Pomorskie	116	48	33	26	14	6	8	17	10	26	15
Śląskie	195	50	43	29	18	26	18	49	15	14	49
Świętokrzyskie	24	9	5	9	6	5	4	7	2	-	-
Warmińsko-Mazurskie	54	15	6	4	8	3	1	5	1	1	-
Wielkopolskie	117	40	8	11	12	4	6	10	-	-	14
Zachodniopomorskie	126	61	32	20	40	25	19	20	18	4	3

Source: Office for Foreigners (after CSO), Demographic Yearbook (2010).

**Table 30. Persons and families who arrived within repatriation. Poland 2001-2011.**

<b>Category</b>	<b>2001-2011</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Families	1 775	429	355	175	120	128	135	107	85	72	72	97
Persons	4 480	1	832	455	372	335	327	281	260	214	175	229
Repatriates	3 902	904	741	408	329	284	269	243	219	165	147	193
<i>of which: children</i>												
below 19	859	182	151	87	72	62	66	50	58	42	38	51
Members of families												
having nationality												
other than Polish	578	96	91	47	43	51	58	38	41	49	28	36

Source: Office for Foreigners (after CSO), Demographic Yearbook (2010).

**Table 31. Acquisition of Polish nationality (a) by country of former nationality. Poland 2002-2011.**

Country of former nationality	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 186</b>	<b>1 634</b>	<b>1 937</b>	<b>2 866</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>1 528</b>	<b>1 054</b>	<b>2 503</b>	<b>2 926</b>	<b>3 445</b>
(former USSR)	(470)	(801)	(957)	(1 500)	(721)	(988)	.	(1 427)	(1 836)	.
Algeria	17	6	12	47	4	7	9	30	24	41
Armenia	13	8	6	18	27	30	16	79	101	140
Austria	-	3	5	9	2	1	1	-	6	-
Australia	1	2	5	25	-	1	2	7	10	-
Belarus	54	108	129	316	101	126	152	357	418	375
Belgium	2	8	3	5	1	1	1	13	4	-
Bulgaria	30	41	32	54	8	16	8	21	21	-
Canada	22	46	36	73	7	17	24	35	40	48
China	6	6	14	5	7	1	1	10	15	-
Croatia	2	8	6	11	-	3	2	3	9	-
Czech Republic	37	20	24	19	-	3	11	9	9	14
Egypt	5	1	2	18	6	13	-	37	38	57
France	17	10	5	14	4	9	8	12	14	17
Georgia	-	-	-	13	5	10	1	14	11	25
Germany	49	60	62	156	1	39	37	47	92	112
Greece	3	4	6	4	1	1	2	4	4	-
Hungary	15	18	12	16	-	1	5	7	8	8
India	3	7	9	23	11	19	3	35	24	45
Iraq	2	11	5	7	-	7	6	6	10	-
Israel	91	101	162	113	2	8	33	10	3	8
Italy	6	5	8	1	4	8	2	2	9	11
Jordan	9	4	7	10	5	6	7	10	6	12
Kazakhstan	53	68	38	62	10	10	18	41	38	43
Lebanon	5	4	4	17	4	7	5	12	17	6
Lithuania	93	126	85	36	11	11	9	24	14	24
Morocco	5	1	1	26	4	7	6	17	19	32
Moldova	-	-	-	19	8	23	24	20	28	40
Netherlands	-	1	10	6	-	3	3	3	5	-
Nigeria	12	8	11	16	7	17	2	35	45	81
Romania	1	6	3	13	4	7	5	9	8	-
Russian Federation	22	52	145	257	129	114	64	162	215	254
Serbia Montenegro	19	11	12	37	8	14	15	23	17	21
Slovak Republic	15	12	22	11	2	12	4	8	26	13
Sweden	30	107	81	90	8	26	48	34	61	54
Switzerland	10	11	7	13	-	4	-	2	16	-
Syria	27	9	37	57	5	12	5	22	18	29
Tunisia	3	-	5	17	4	6	4	19	35	58
Turkey	1	5	11	19	36	11	1	35	33	-
Ukraine	214	431	538	759	417	662	369	877	992	1 086
United Kingdom	20	14	21	18	1	6	2	6	9	12
United States	9	32	41	59	8	23	27	47	50	69
Vietnam	17	11	11	36	29	47	12	64	97	126
Stateless	162	150	115	150	2	61	14	78	58	48
All other	84	98	189	191	96	118	86	217	247	536
<i>Of which:</i>										
by conferment proced.	988	1 471	1 791	2 625	662	.	.	.	.	.

(a) including following procedures: conferment, acknowledgement and declaration, (.) no data available. Source: Kępińska 2007, Office for Foreigners



**Table 32. Total marriages contracted according to the spouses' country of previous residence. Poland 1990-2011.**

Year	Total marriages contracted	Both spouses national (b)	Both spouses foreigners (c)	Foreign spouses		
				Total	Foreign husband (c)	Foreign wife (c)
1990	258 698	(a)	(d)	4 240	3 329	911
1991	236 330	(a)	(d)	3 929	3 124	805
1992	217 240	(a)	(d)	3 364	2 588	776
1993	209 997	(a)	(d)	3 077	2 323	754
1994	210 055	(a)	(d)	3 297	2 366	931
1995	207 114	203 841	(d)	3 240	2 320	920
1996	203 679	203 841	38	3 154	2 177	977
1997	204 887	200 487	37	3 372	2 206	1 166
1998	209 465	201 478	35	3 969	2 428	1 541
1999	219 445	205 461	47	3 639	2 318	1 321
2000	211 189	215 759	39	3 537	2 178	1 359
2001	195 162	207 613	40	3 495	2 115	1 380
2002	191 978	191 627	43	3 552	2 119	1 433
2003	195 495	188 383	49	3 967	2 258	1 709
2004	191 824	187 678	66	4 080	2 402	1 678
2005	206 916	203 375	58	3 483	2 260	1 223
2006	226 257	222 634	76	3 547	2 363	1 184
2007	248 777	244 852	75	3 850	2 658	1 192
2008	257 813	254 063	69	3 957	2 967	990
2009	250 982	247 426	188	4 120	3 076	1 044
2010	228 423	224 605	86	3 732	2 804	928
2011	206 554	203 070	83	3 484	2 710	774

(a) In 1990-1994 included in 'total marriages contracted'.

(b) Living permanently in Poland before marriage.

(c) Living permanently abroad before marriage.

(d) In 1990-1995 included in 'foreign husband' and 'foreign wife' categories (total number of cases is probably below 40 on annual scale).

Source: Kępińska 2007, Central Statistical Office, Demographic Yearbook (2008, 2009, 2010).

**Table 33. Mixed marriages; wife living permanently in Poland, husband living permanently abroad – by country of previous residence of husband. Poland 2003-2011.**

Country of previous residence	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	2 258	2 402	2 260	2 363	2 658	2 967	3 076	2 804	2 627
(EU-15)	(1 176)	(1 129)	(1 130)	(1 262)	(1 427)	(1 642)	(1 667)	(1 799)	(1 747)
(former USSR)	(428)	(358)	(326)	(282)	(313)	.	(229)	(198)	.
<i>Of which from:</i>									
Algeria	13	14	18	11	20	19	18	14	10
Armenia	57	60	59	45	59	41	25	21	16
Australia	20	28	22	27	29	32	24	31	21
Austria	26	31	22	30	35	30	16	23	26
Belarus	39	40	30	34	28	20	19	24	16
Belgium	39	42	41	48	48	29	40	47	46
Brazil	(a)	12	12	33	45	37	25	11	7
Bulgaria	24	33	16	29	9	18	18	11	15
Canada	66	62	51	36	37	31	25	18	13
Czech Republic	14	21	27	31	30	37	44	55	39
Denmark	16	15	12	21	26	27	22	30	16
Egypt	12	11	21	14	25	33	50	38	38
France	64	80	86	83	92	99	99	108	105
Germany	531	466	483	465	395	430	408	403	384
Greece	26	19	11	15	18	20	20	15	27
Hungary	9	10	11	13	13	10	18	25	17
India	9	20	20	22	39	56	63	39	35
Ireland	18	14	23	42	62	99	136	138	134
Italy	103	128	120	128	162	209	172	196	159
Lithuania	12	6	14	22	13	18	18	22	17
Netherlands	131	108	91	97	90	101	106	86	73
Nigeria	14	21	36	35	91	175	109	41	30
Norway	27	25	20	15	17	24	26	18	26
Portugal	11	11	16	14	27	27	37	26	33
Romania	14	12	19	26	25	25	26	25	26
Russian Federation	53	37	34	23	33	20	25	19	23
Slovak Republic	14	17	21	18	11	25	31	36	25
Spain	21	25	30	47	52	54	68	77	85
Sweden	37	47	24	29	31	25	25	25	23
Switzerland	11	15	17	11	14	13	12	23	19
Tunisia	(a)	13	10	36	53	51	40	37	32
Turkey	39	40	26	54	69	65	69	76	77
Ukraine	251	197	168	138	151	94	111	85	46
United Kingdom	144	133	162	231	381	483	506	618	628
United States	123	153	126	108	77	67	72	55	54
Vietnam	73	171	78	41	30	22	13	4	4

(a) Included in other.

Source: Central Statistical Office

**Table 34. Mixed marriages; husband living permanently in Poland, wife living permanently abroad – by country of previous residence of wife. Poland 2003-2011.**

Country of previous residence	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	1 709	1 678	1 223	1 184	1 192	990	1 044	928	691
(EU-15)	(107)	(93)	(72)	(76)	(81)	.	(130)	(134)	(101)
(former USSR)	(1 412)	(1 350)	(955)	(923)	(930)	.	(688)	(527)	.
Armenia	26	30	37	41	39	32	17	11	11
Austria	5	2	7	4	4	(a)	7	3	7
Belarus	206	182	165	151	153	119	95	89	87
Belgium	5	6	1	-	2	(a)	-	3	3
Brazil	(a)	3	9	17	25	23	9	10	7
Bulgaria	11	12	7	6	6	7	8	3	3
Canada	18	18	12	10	7	(a)	5	4	2
Czech Republic	5	7	13	7	7	(a)	9	11	7
France	5	4	2	7	3	(a)	6	4	1
Georgia	6	2	-	-	2	7	1	1	2
Germany	62	55	40	39	34	38	42	49	25
Japan	5	11	9	11	7	9	15	12	10
Kazakhstan	8	12	9	10	9	(a)	10	4	6
Latvia	5	2	2	4	7	14	13	6	8
Lithuania	20	19	23	21	27	22	31	18	13
Moldova	12	11	16	9	5	10	6	16	4
Mongolia	9	11	4	10	5	(a)	7	7	4
Romania	7	6	7	14	7	13	11	6	15
Russian Federation	90	95	76	94	92	84	88	83	85
Slovak Republic	12	8	8	1	6	(a)	12	10	9
Sweden	5	5	1	5	6	7	5	3	3
Ukraine	1 031	990	621	578	590	405	413	389	214
United Kingdom	13	5	4	14	13	13	44	39	37
United States	25	24	28	17	15	16	8	13	8
Vietnam	53	87	41	26	14	10	6	6	7
Other	60	71	79	87	105	161	175	125	113

(a) Included in other.

Source: Central Statistical Office.

**Table 35. Asylum seekers (first and subsequent applications) by nationality and sex. Poland 2009-2011.**

Nationality	2009	2010	2011	<i>of which:</i>				
				First applications		Women		
				2009	2010	2009	2010	2011
Total	10 587	6 534	6 887	9 651	4 330	4 671	3 021	3 233
Afghanistan	14	25	36	13	23	3	6	8
Algeria	11	4	6	7	3	1	0	1
Armenia	147	107	216	129	63	75	44	94
Azerbaijan	10	10	2	9	3	2	3	-
Bangladesh	13	18	10	7	9	-	-	-
Belarus	37	46	81	23	34	13	15	17
Cameroon	12	11	13	6	5	3	2	4
China	16	9	7	14	9	4	2	2
Egypt	-	11	8	3	7	-	-	1
Ethiopia	1	1	0	-	1	1	-	-
Georgia	4 214	1 082	1 735	4 171	583	1 530	410	730
India	16	17	9	7	8	1	1	1
Iran	5	7	11	4	6	1	1	3
Iraq	21	27	28	19	22	9	7	8
Kazakhstan	5	11	26	5	6	1	10	17
Kyrgyzstan	13	37	43	10	34	5	19	25
Moldova	6	5	5	6	1	3	3	1
Mongolia	15	19	10	7	5	10	12	3
Nepal	14	17	29	14	15	4	3	4
Nigeria	23	19	15	22	16	3	1	4
Pakistan	19	27	20	9	11	-	1	-
Russian Federation	5 726	4 795	4 305	4 983	3 314	2 939	2 414	2 228
Sierra Leone	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Somalia	2	5	9	1	3	-	2	-
Sri Lanka	11	6	6	8	5	1	-	2
Sudan	1	1	2	1	1	-	1	1
Syria	7	8	12	4	3	-	-	3
Turkey	11	19	17	10	15	1	2	1
Ukraine	36	45	67	27	29	17	25	29
Uzbekistan	19	14	6	10	11	6	7	4
Vietnam	67	47	31	62	39	22	15	7
Stateless	19	21	23	8	10	2	5	4

Source: Kępińska 2007, Office for Foreigners.