

Ladies and Gentlemen,



We are proud to present the CSO Report 2016, thereby we launch issuing annual reports concerning the Polish official statistics operations. This brochure will bring you closer to our work and achievements. Therefore, in the reports we will present the most interesting projects and changes implemented in the statistics. We will also tell you about our history, the present and the future, as well as about out-of-work activities of our employees.

The Polish official statistics operates in an international environment which – to meet the growing demands of the users and evolving realities of statistics production – is the subject to constant development. According to the global trends, modern statistics departs from the direct data collection, but increasingly benefits from administrative data sources, such as the registers at the disposal of individual ministries, central offices and local units. The next planned step is gathering information from the "Big Data", which is a variety of data sets. Its processing and analysis is difficult but, at the same time, valuable, as it can lead to acquiring new knowledge. This, however, requires a thorough examination of the sources to obtain reliable, high-quality data suitable to be presented to you. In this booklet you will find information about this and other matters.

I wish you a pleasant reading of the report.

Dominik Rozkrut, PhD

The President of the Central Statistical Office

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Poland in the OECD 1996–2016

22 November 2016 marked the 20th anniversary of Poland's accession to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The OECD is an intergovernmental organisation established in 1961, now comprising 35 democratic states. Its primary objective is to contribute to the utmost sustainable economic growth and employment and to raise the living conditions in the Members States. The organisation is seeking the best political and economic practices. It shall promote activities encouraging to improve the quality of life of people all over the world, according to the motto "Better policies for a better life".

Polish membership in the OECD

Poland's accession to the Organisation was an element providing a favourable environment for reinvigorating cooperation with more developed countries. It was also of vital importance for the development of democratic structures and had an effect on strengthening Poland's position on the international stage. In the face of increasing economic interdependence among countries and ever greater globalisation, joining the OECD contributed to supporting the economic transition in our country. Commitment to the work of the Organisation resulted in experience valuable to developing cooperation with other countries and groupings. Membership of the OECD has enabled further opening up of the Polish economy, leading to an improved competitiveness and productivity, as well as to an increase in trade and capital exchanges.

20 years of partnership and cooperation

'The past 20 years are a period of economic success for Poland which has developed faster than any other European economy, said OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría, a special guest at the anniversary conference "20 Years of Partnership and Cooperation between Poland and the OECD". The conference was organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 25 November 2016 in Warszawa. At the conference, President of the Central Statistical Office Dominik Rozkrut in his speech entitled "Poland and the OECD in the period 1996–2016 – from the perspective of statistics" presented the main trends in the socio-economic situation of Poland over the last two decades. President Dominik Rozkrut also presented a commemorative publication "Poland in the OECD 1996-2016", prepared by the Central Statistical Office on the occasion of the jubilee.

Poland in the OECD 1996-2016

The publication refers to the highlights of Polish history and Organisation itself, promotes its activities and presents analyses of social and economic changes in Poland in comparison to other Member States. In part one of "Poland in the OECD 1996–2016", prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economic Development, provides essential information on the purpose, mode and scope of action of the OECD, along with an overview of the notable events in the history of the Organisation. It also presents issues related to the involvement of Polish official statistics in the actions taken by the OECD Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy.

Part two of the publication is an analytical description illustrated by graphics and infographics. It was prepared based on statistics held on the OECD database.

Two areas have been identified: the first one focuses on

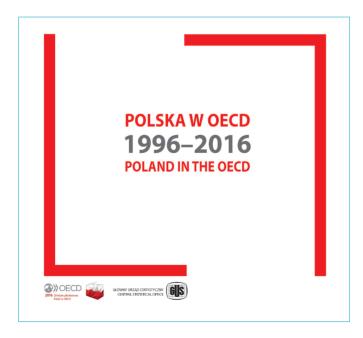
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a set of variables constituting the Better Life Index; the second covers the descriptions of the macroeconomic conditions.

Cooperation within the OECD

During the panel discussion "How Poland can make the most of the OECD membership", which took place during the jubilee conference, the CSO President Dominik Rozkrut presented the areas of special involvement of Polish statistics concerning, among other things, the issue of measurement of the Polish economy innovativeness and changes observed in society in the use of modern technologies.

A very good example of this type of changes is the increasing access to information technologies in our society. In this way, the access to the information improves,



providing a favourable environment for levelling out the educational opportunities and chances on the labour market. In 2015, computers were a common piece of equipment of Norwegian, Dutch and Luxembourgian households (96.5% to 95.3%), while the lowest figures were observed in Turkish (50.6%), Lithuanian (67.6%) and Greek households (68.6%). In 2015, 77.9% of Polish households were computer-equipped. This figure went up by 33 percentage points compared to 2006. This increase was one of the highest among the OECD countries. The most significant improvement in the availability of computers in households has been reported in Latvia, Estonia and the Czech Republic (growth between 36–40 percentage points), except for Poland.

The OECD membership obliges the representatives to regularly submit information on the directions and principles of the implementing policies, simultaneously provides an opportunity for the mutual exchange of experience in the area of national policies and legislation, and enables consultations and studies on individual economies

From the very start of the cooperation with the OECD, fourteen reviews of the Polish economy have been held, the last one in February 2016. Beyond the traditionally discussed issues concerning macroeconomic policy, special attention was devoted to the migration and competencies of employees, as well as investments in transport and energy infrastructure.

One important aspect of OECD activities is carrying out the statistical studies research. The results are complementary to national Statistical Offices data and are used for socio-economic analyses. Polish statistics participates in setting the guidelines for statistical research, laying down methodological standards and enhancing the quality, and also encourages the research of innovative solutions for statistical data dissemination.

Polish official statistics

Organisation of Polish official statistics

Official statistics services consist of the President of the Central Statistical Office (CSO), directors of 16 regional Statistical Offices (SO) subordinated to the President and units serving official statistics: Statistical Computing Centre, Statistical Publishing Establishment and Central Statistical Library.

Central Statistical Office



President of CSO supervises the work of the CSO with the assistance of the Vice-Presidents, the Civil Service Director of the Office, as well as the directors of the organisational units. The CSO currently consists of 19 organisational units (offices and departments). They perform tasks specified in the Organisational Regulations of the Central Statistical Office and in their internal rules of procedure.

Office of the President – performs tasks deriving from the President of the CSO supervision over the units of official statistics services, examines the tasks and requirements of the official statistics services, provides legal and legislative services to the office's management.

Finance and Accounting Department – provides financial services to the CSO, calculates the survey costs, manages the financial and accounting services to the CSO, including the financial servicing of tasks co-financed from off-budget resources, as well as the public procurement orders in the CSO.

Organisation and Personnel Office – facilitates continuity and organisation of work at the CSO, prepares draft versions of the organisational regulations of the CSO and its departments, organises employee recruitment, prepares job descriptions and periodic evaluations, manages staffing, initiates training activities, prepares programmes of human resources management and statistical education.

Administration Office – is responsible for housing management, technical, economic administrative services for the CSO, property inventory and management; provides health and safety in the workplace, performs civil defence, fire safety and crisis management tasks.

Information Security Management Office – coordinates the activities of units of official statistics services for the protection of statistical data, personal data, confidential information and other information which confidentiality is protected by law, develops the ICT system, cooperates with the Information Department in the matter of statistical data confidentiality. It also handles the defence matters and statistical surveys in the field of defence.

The CSO departments initiate statistical research, draw up their programmes, conduct and coordinate research, methodological work and analyses. They publish research results in the following areas:

Programming and Coordination of Statistical Surveys
Department – draws up a multiannual public statistics
statistical research programme, a Programme of Statistical Surveys of Official Statistics (PBSSP) and a plan
of the statistical analyses. For statistical research purposes, it makes a diagnosis of information systems of the
public administration and cooperates with the systems'
administrators. It prepares templates and questionnaires, approved by the Prime Minister. It co-ordinates and

monitors research, including censuses, uses geographic information systems (GIS) in statistical research.

Methodology, Standards and Registers Department

– carries out work in the field of basic classification standards, terms and definitions, keeps statistical registers and sampling frames for social surveys and keeps the national official business register (REGON) and the registers of the country territorial division (TERYT).

Analyses and Comprehensive Studies Department

 initiates and conducts works aimed at preparation of aggregated information, analyses and publications that characterise the social and economic situation of the country and prepares publications including the international comparisons.

National Accounts Department – prepares methodological rules, conducts and coordinates studies and analyses and presents their results in the field of: the national accounts system, the fiscal notification of debt and the deficit of government and local-government institutions' sector, investments and fixed assets in the national economy, international comparisons of GDP and purchasing power parity.

Macroeconomics Studies and Finance Statistics

Department – prepares macroeconomic analyses and the evaluation of the socio-economic situation of the country and the economic situation, including regional, sectoral and international conditions, as well as public finances and institutions of the financial market.

Regional and Environmental Surveys Department –

conducts regional surveys at the national level, prepares regional aggregated studies and analyses, coordinates work of the units of official statistics services in the field of regional surveys, conducts statistical surveys concerning the condition, the environmental risk, protection of the environment and water management, environment quality, and the economic aspects of the environmental protection, including environmental accounts.

Demographic and Labour Market Surveys Department – conducts surveys in the area of: demography, migration, families, nationalities and denominations, labour resources, demand for labour, labour force, employed persons, employment, unemployment, wages and salaries, labour costs, labour conditions, accidents at work and strikes, prepares demographic forecasts, and publishes statistical surveys and analyses results in the above-mentioned areas.

Social Surveys and Living Conditions Department

- is esponsible for the quality of life and living conditions, health statistics, education, culture, tourism, sports, social assistance, childcare and family care, the judiciary, social economy and social capital.

Trade and Services Department – coordinates surveys of the statistics of trade and catering activity, economic relations with other countries, transport and communications, housing services and municipal infrastructure, business services, retail goods and services prices, import and export prices and producer prices of selected services.

Production Department – carries out statistical problem analyses concerning industrial and construction activities, and producer prices in this field, including materials and fuel and energy management, and coordinates work in the area of R&D, innovativeness and information society.

Enterprises Department – carries out surveys concerning the functioning of the sector of non-financial enterprises, and conducts analyses in the above area,

including multi-faceted ones, as well as prepares studies.

Agriculture Department – conducts statistical surveys and analyses concerning the production resources of agriculture, purchase of agricultural and silviculture products, agricultural production balances, the provision of the means of agricultural production, agricultural and silvicultural production measures, satellite accounts of agriculture and forestry, the state of forest resources, prices in agriculture and forestry, including the prices of land, the economic situation of farms, the non-agricultural activity of farms, and services for agriculture.

International Cooperation Department – organises and coordinates the cooperation of official statistics services within the European Statistical System (ESS), and cooperation with National Statistical Institutes outside the EU and with international organisations.

Information Department – disseminates statistical information, including the ones published on the basis of the legal acts and international obligations, coordinates activities within the area of information dissemination conducted by statistical offices, uses of modern methods of access to statistical information and coordinates works on the protection of the statistical confidentiality.

Statistical Offices



There is a Statistical Office (SO) in each Polish voivodship, managed by a director appointed and dismissed by the President of the CSO. The tasks of the Statistical Offices are defined in the Law on Official Statistics and in a statute issued by the President of the CSO. Statistical Offices carry out specialised countrywide tasks realised within the framework of works conducted in favour of the official statistics. During all phases of conducted works Statistical Offices cooperate with the relevant CSO departments and units subordinated to the President of the CSO.

Statistical Offices are specialised in the following areas:

Statistical Office in Białystok – forestry and nature protection;

Statistical Office in Bydgoszcz – labour market, including work permits for foreigners, wages and salaries;

Statistical Office in Gdańsk – education, human capital, research on unpaid work, working conditions and economic activity of the population;

Statistical Office in Katowice – regional accounts, financial market, financial instruments, investment outlays and fixed assets, environmental protection, outlays and effects of material investments in environmental protection and water resources management;

Statistical Office in Kielce – non-observed economy in registered economic entities, illegal activity (the black economy); trade and services;

Statistical Office in Kraków – social economy, health and healthcare, culture, social welfare, foster care and rescue;

Statistical Office in Lublin – housing and utilities infrastructure, construction;

Statistical Office in Łódź – small and medium-sized enterprises and population's living conditions,

development and interpretation of classification standards and nomenclatures:

Statistical Office in Olsztyn – population demographics and migration, social statistics, agriculture, rural areas, production of industrial products;

Statistical Office in Opole – the prices of: goods and services, roads and bridges, roads and bridges work, in foreign trade and in agriculture;

Statistical Office in Poznań – short-term statistics. urban and small area statistics, macroeconomic data bank and development policy monitoring system;

Statistical Office in Rzeszów – sport and tourism, fuel, energy and materials market, cross-border research, Euro-regional statistics;

Statistical Office in Szczecin – science, technology, innovation and information society, maritime statistics, inland waterway transport, transport and telecoms;

Statistical Office in Warszawa - non-financial enterprises, the use of administrative data sources, development of statistical analysis systems and making information accessible;

Statistical Office in Wrocław - local government activity, cross-border statistics. management and development of the Local Data Bank (BDL);

Statistical Office in Zielona Góra – trends in agriculture and business- surveys carried out using the business condition test method in industrial processing, construction, trade, other business services and agricultural holdings.

Service units of official statistics

Statistical Publishing Establishment (ZWS)



The task of the ZWS is to carry out publishing and printing works, primarily for the needs of official statistics services

Statistical Computing Centre (CIS)

The core task of CIS is the provision and development of IT services used by official statistics. CIS also provides development and security of computers systems and databases.

Central Statistical Library (CBS)



It is the second largest library in Europe in terms of number of available publications. It provides the access to specialised library supplies and information resources of official statistics.

Research and Statistical Education Centre (CBiES) in Jachranka



CBiES serves as a national and international statistical education institution directed to official statistics, it also provides educational and research services for other units and institutions. CBiES conducts and organises activities supporting scientific statistical and innovation research.

The Government Population Council (RRL)



The Government Population Council is an advisory body of the President of the Council of Ministers on matters concerning demographic issues and population policy. In 1997 RRL took over the duties of the Government Population Commission that was established in 1974. Currently the President-in-Office of the Council is Professor Dr. Józefina Hrynkiewicz and the Secretary-General is Dr. Alina Potrykowska.

The Government Population Council is responsible for:

- submitting on annual basis reports on the demographic situation of Poland to the Council of Ministers,
- initiating legislative actions and providing opinions on legal acts concerning the population policy,
- initiating scientific research including submitting proposals on research topics and providing opinions on demographic issues and population policy,
- cooperation with the Committee on Demographic Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Polish Demographic Society, the Central Statistical Office, universities and research associations to develop research and disseminate demographic knowledge,
- cooperation with international organisations dealing with the population policy – United Nations, the Council of Europe, OECD and other.

The most important area of cooperation of the RRL with the UN is its participation in the activities of the UN Commission on Population and Development. Due to the efforts of RRL and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland was elected to be a member of the Commission for the years 2001–2004 and 2008–2011. To continue, the RRL, in cooperation with proper governmental bodies formulates relevant materials for the Commission' sessions and suggests the most appropriate composition of the Polish delegation to the meetings of the Commission.

The RRL in its annual reports about Poland's demographic situation stresses the need for a interdisciplinary approach to demographic processes in our country.

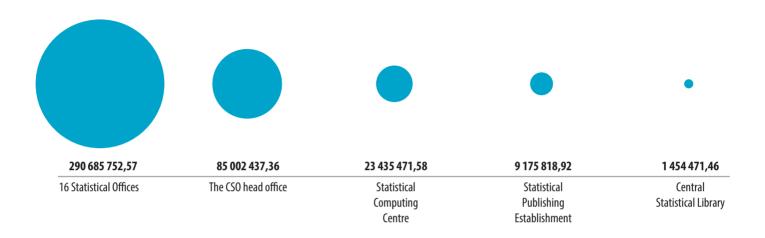
On 26 April 2016 in the Parliament, the Government Population Council prepared a conference "Demographic perspectives as a challenge for the Polish population policy". Representatives of the provincial, state and self-government authorities, took the initiative to organise thematically similar debates in each voivod-ship. RRL adopted this idea and along with the province governors and regional Statistical Offices organises conferences in particular regions.

So far, conferences have been held in 6 voivodships, 10 more meetings are scheduled for the first half of 2017. The debates address demographic outlook of a given voivodship, migration, an ageing population, and the impact of these factors on the labour market and the living conditions of families. An important element of the meetings is the analysis of the social policy challenges.

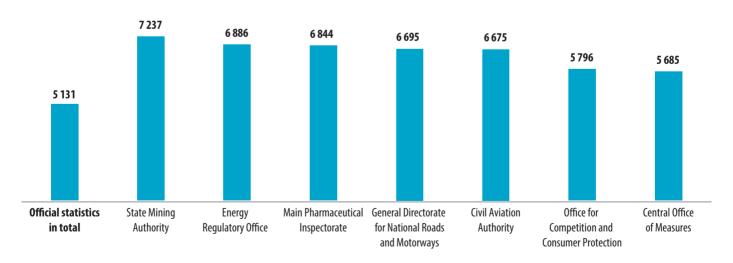
This work will be concluded with the national conference scheduled for the autumn of 2017, which will allow representatives of all regions to present key issues and challenges for the future. It will also create a possibility of interregional comparisons, which should result in cooperation in the future economic and social development policies.

Budget of official statistics in 2016

Budget of official statistics in 2016 broken down by units of public statistics, in Polish złoty



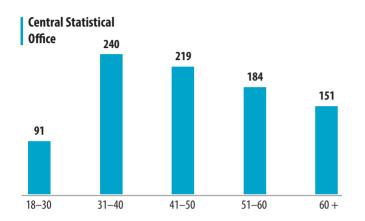
Average monthly gross wages and salaries in 2015 in selected government administration offices

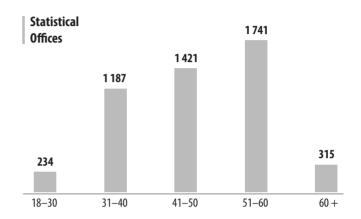


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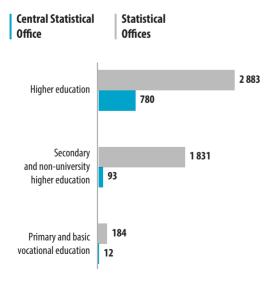
Employees of official statistics in 2016

Employment by age groups (from 31 December 2016)

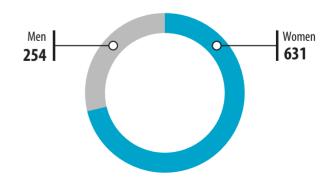




Employment taking account of level of education (from 31 December 2016)



Employment taking account of gender (from 31 December 2016)



Statistics about statistics

Publications

Official statistics is an indispensable element in the information system of the democratic society. It delivers official statistical data on the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation to the national authorities, central and local government administration, the economic sector and to the society.

The publishing activity of the Central Statistical Office and Statistical Offices stems from the Programme of Statistical Surveys of Official Statistics and is carried out in accordance with the Editorial Title-Plan of the CSO for the given year. In 2016, the Central Statistical Office produced 151 publications, while the Statistical Offices – 220. In addition, 386 notes and current information were published on the CSO and Statistical Offices information portal.

Official statistics in the media

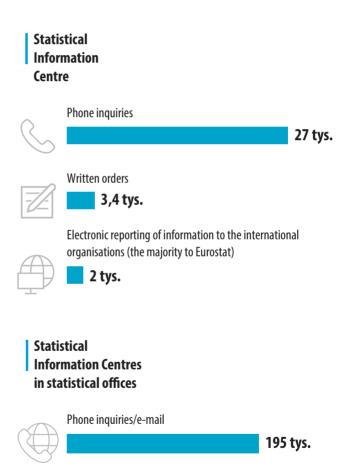
- In 2016, 3.166 publications, by authors using CSO statistical data, were published in the national press. Most popular topics were: labour market (418), national accounts (394), wages (265), prices (244) and demographics (240).
- In 2016, 9530 publications were published in the electronic media. The national accounts (1.236), labour market (1.103), prices (851), demographics (700) and agriculture (610) attracted the highest interest.
- Regional media used statistical data 1.568 times.

The Media Relations Division replied to more than 400 written responses to the press inquiries. By far the majority of journalists' orders (about 10 thousand)

were executed on an ongoing basis through telephone contacts.

Individual recipients from Poland and abroad

In 2016, the Central Statistical Information Centre and Statistical Information Centres in the Statistical Offices served:



Written orders

31 tvs.

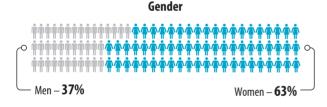
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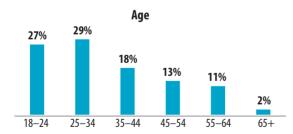
Information Portal of the Central Statistical Office

Information Portal of the CSO is one of the most popular government administration portals. In 2016, it had 2.9 million people visiting it for more than 17 million times (on average 48 thousand page views a day), 8% of which were mobile device users.

More than 1 million files were downloaded from the portal. Most often these were macroeconomic indicators, Demographic Yearbook of Poland 2015, Concise Statistical Yearbook of Poland 2015 and Statistical Yearbook of the Republic of Poland 2015.







The highest page view count from the Mazovian voivodship

Average page visit duration

Average page visit the portal is most visited

38%

O0:03:13

Educational meetings

Educational activities are addressed to different groups of beneficiaries and aimed at conveying the knowledge about statistics, official statistics system, statistical research and interpreting the results of these surveys. These actions should result in raising public awareness concerning the role and importance of official statistics in the properly functioning state. They should also show how to use official statistics resources effectively. These actions are supposed to contribute to building of a civic society.

Summary of the number of people admitted to internships and placements in 2016 (situation on 24 January 2017)

Statistical Offices (SO) and the CSO	Intern- ship	Traine- eship	Trainees from abroad	Total
Total	151	22	8	181
SO Białystok	2	0	0	2
SO Bydgoszcz	12	2	1	15
SO Gdańsk	15	0	0	15
SO Katowice	12	1	1	14
SO Kielce	5	3	0	8
SO Kraków	2	3	0	5
SO Lublin	8	0	0	8
SO Łódź	1	2	0	3
SO Olsztyn	6	1	0	7
SO Opole	12	0	0	12
SO Poznań	0	0	0	0
SO Rzeszów	13	5	0	18
SO Szczecin	12	1	2	15
SO Warszawa	5	0	0	5
SO Wrocław	12	2	0	14
SO Zielona Góra	0	0	0	0
CSO	34	2	4	40

Statistics Olympics



The Interdisciplinary Statistics Olympics, the 1st edition of which was launched in October 2016, was addressed to the upper secondary education students. The main objective of the Olympics is to disseminate knowledge of statistics in the area of socio-economic analyses, develop skills of using data from different sources and tools for statistical analysis. The Olympics is organised by the Central Statistical Office, the Polish Statistical Association and the School of Economics, Law and Medical Sciences in Kielce, and held under the honorary patronage of Ministry of National Education. The event's partners are: National Bank of Poland and selected universities from all over the country.

The rivalry is carried out in three phases: school, district and nationwide. The online knowledge test (in the school stage) was taken by nearly 2.5 thousand pupils in 290 schools from all over Poland. 604 participants were qualified to the next stage (a written exam). The pupils with the best scores took the oral exam.

The winners of the district preliminaries (the best person of a particular voivodship) and 54 persons with the best test results at the scale of an entire country will participate in the central phase. On March 29, 2017, 70 participants will take the online test. The Top 30 will be able to fight for the podium place in the oral exam. The final of the Statistics Olympics will take place on April 19, 2017 in the premises of the Central Statistical Office.

The winners and finalists of the first edition of the Statistics Olympics may receive numerous awards, including: admissions to selected universities, scholarships, electronic equipment and other gifts. Prizes will also be awarded to the tutors of the three best participants and to their schools.

Summary of the educational activities and their participants in 2016 - from 24.01.2017

Name of the unit	Preschoolers		Pupils Studenci		Academic staff		Public admini- stration		Other groups		Total			
	D	U	D	U	D	U	D	U	D	U	D	U	D	U
Total	107	2271	1942	45517	180	3974	24	637	44	967	93	3382	2390	56748
CSO	0	0	5	150	4	250	5	398	3	609	14	1024	31	2431
Statistical Offices in voivodships	107	2271	1936	45164	176	3724	19	239	41	358	75	2358	2354	5414
Central Statistical Library	0	0	1	203	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	5	203

D – number of educational activities, U – number of participants.

Innovations in official statistics

STRATEG system

An important task of statistics is to provide information for management and strategic planning purposes. Statistical information is essential to the position diagnosis, as well as to goals setting and priorities development. The CSO undertook the task of identifying and systematising information relevant to managing development and monitoring the European Union cohesion policy, to which the national strategic objectives refer. As a result, development monitoring system STRATEG was released on September 30, 2013. It provides universal access to strategic documents and indicators used to monitor their implementation. STRATEG is a unique tool designed to improve the development monitoring process and evaluation activities undertaken in cohesion policy.

The content of the STRATEG portal, its modern appearance and ease-of-use – these are the reasons why this portal attracts various user groups. The attractiveness of STRATEG is reflected in its structured informative content, user-friendly design and intuitive usage. Modern forms of presenting statistical information encourage to analyse the objectives and actions of cohesion policy and to raise awareness of drafting development policy. STRATEG is a popular tool, especially among academic teachers and students. Bearing in mind the need to improve the system, cooperation with the main users takes place on an ongoing basis, in order to adapt STRATEG to their needs. Strategic documents and scope of information of the system are gradually added.

Caring for portal users satisfaction, its functionality is being progressively expanded.

Sustainable Development Indicators Application

In February 2016, the **Sustainable Development Indicators** (SDI) Application was made accessible on the CSO Information Portal. It is one of the few tools for monitoring sustainable development in Europe available to the public. The SDI Application raised interest of members of the European Statistical System (ESS) and the scientific community.

The SDI Application **contains a set of over 200 measures** in three modules: national (Poland, EU Member States), regional (NTS 1, NTS 2) and local (NTS 4).

The indicators are grouped in four areas: social, economic, environmental and institutional political.

The following solutions to find information about indicators are used in the SDI Application:

- A drop-down tree-like graph, sorting measures by topic,
- Alphabetical list of indicators,
- Grouping by territorial level,
- Grouping by the level of database provision,
- One-word and phrase search engine: on the whole database, in a user-defined area (in indicator name, metric and glossary).

Information analysis is facilitated by data visualisation tools, as graphs, adapted for the needs of visually impaired users.

a tool for delivering sustainable development indicators to Eurostat. The plans include creating the version of the application dedicated to mobile devices.

THE NATIONAL MODULE

Poland The European Union The EU Member States



THE REGIONAL MODULE

Poland Regions Voivodships



THE LOCAL MODULE

Poland Districts (poviats)



In 2016, training sessions were held on the information resources of the SDI Application and its function, addressed to the staff of the CSO.

The SDI Application is open and flexible – it is planned to be expanded by a global module with indicators to measure the achievement of Agenda 2030. Research into the new module is being planned to implement 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The global module will enable to review regularly and comprehensively the achievement of Agenda 2030 goals at the national level. It will also be used to inform the UN on the progress made in implementing Agenda 2030 and identify national challenges in the area of sustainable development. The SDI Application will also be

Operational Programme "Technical Assistance" (OPTA)

The Central Statistical Office is a key institution in creating a consistent and effective cohesion policy monitoring system. Regarding that, it accomplishes its tasks through developing new indicators, disaggregating already available indicators at the lower territorial levels and improving systematically monitoring tools and systems, including the STRATEG system. These actions were launched in the financial framework of 2007–2013 and are currently ongoing in a three-year project "Statistics for Cohesion Policy. Support for the cohesion policy monitoring system in the 2014–2020 financial framework and for programming and monitoring the

cohesion policy after 2020", co-financed by the Operational Programme "Technical Assistance 2014–2020".

Within the framework of the project, new research, analyses and expert opinions are performed; selected research is continued by extending its scope or developing estimation methods of certain indicator categories in, so far, unavailable thematic/spatial aggregation level of detail. Association of official statistics with the work related to the usage of microdata for the purposes of conducting counterfactual evaluation of public interventions effectiveness, continues to be a new task. The research is conducted in the following thematic areas: labour market, poverty and social exclusion, monitoring of functional areas, energy technology, public services, economy, research and development (R&D), innovation, information and communication technologies (ICT), environment. The results of the research are published on a website dedicated to the project and popularised during conferences and seminars organised for participants of the cohesion policy implementation system.

In 2016, a publication "Towards cohesion. Polish regions 2007–2013" was published to summarise changes observed in Poland and in the EU Member States in the financial framework 2007–2013.

In order to provide necessary human resources and conditions needed to ensure efficient activities for cohesion policy, the CSO also implements projects co-financed by OPTA, aimed at supporting wages and salaries and the working environment of employees involved in cohesion policy monitoring.



Selected publications and surveys conducted by the official statistics services in 2016

Cross-border Movement Survey

Statistical Office in Rzeszów, as a responsible unit, carried out two sample surveys of arrivals of non-residents to Poland in 2016 and of participation in domestic and outbound trips of Poles. Such studies provide information, homogeneous in terms of methodology, for statistics in the field of tourism, national accounts, balance of payments and cross-border areas. The survey was conducted on the basis of the Agreement of 11 February 2015 between the Central Statistical Office, the National Bank of Poland and the Ministry of Sport and Tourism.

The survey "Trips made by non-residents to Poland. The movement of vehicles and people at the Polish border with the countries of the European Union" was carried out seven times in each quarter at 26 border crossing points, 3 airports and 2 maritime ports. The aim of the study was to quarterly estimate border traffic on the border between Poland and other EU countries, the number of trips by non-residents to Poland (tourists and one-day visitors), amount of expenditure incurred during the trip, as well as profiles of arriving non-residents by a selected feature, including those crossing the border under the local border traffic regime.

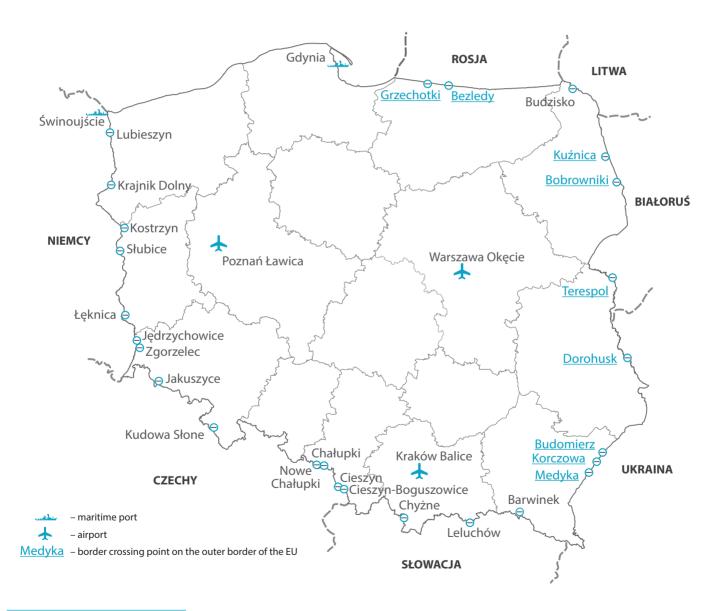
The survey "Participation of Polish citizens (residents) in travel" was conducted in households nationwide on a

sample of more than 18 thousand apartments on a quarterly basis. The main purpose of the survey was to provide information on the Polish citizens' participation in long- and short-term domestic and outbound trips, directions and purposes of travel, and value of travelling expenses. The collected data allows us to characterise the departing population according to selected socio-demographic features. The survey was carried out by means of computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) in order to reduce the period of the survey completion, which had an impact on reducing the burden for respondents and statistical interviewers.

In 2016, the Statistical Office in Rzeszów also carried out a methodological work "Improvement of the methodology for integrated statistical surveys pertaining to travel".

The goal of this work is to improve research tools and identify new data sources, including those of the nature of big data, which could be used to estimate travel data. Statistical Office in Rzeszów entered into a collaborative relationship with institutions which collect road traffic data in the vicinity of the border, i.e. the Federal Highway Research Institute (BASt) in Germany, Road and Transport Research Institute (KTTI) in Lithuania, National Motorway Company of Slovakia (NDS) and General Directorate for National Roads And Highways in Poland (GDDKiA). After verifying and analysing the usefulness of the aforementioned data, it is planned to be used to estimate border traffic on the Polish-German, Polish-Lithuanian and Polish-Slovak border, respectively. This can reduce the frequency of conducting the surveys, and thus reduce the burden for statistical interviewers and survey costs.

The border crossing points which were the subject of the survey "Trips made by non-residents to Poland. The movement of vehicles and people at the Polish border with the countries of the European Union"



Signal information and publications

Research of cross-border areas and in households:

signal information after the end of each quarter, once a year publication "Border traffic, foreigner's expenditures in Poland and Poles' abroad in 2015" (Polish-English version).

The studies contain the description of phenomena occurring in cross-border areas, in particular the expenses incurred by foreigners and Polish citizens in Poland and abroad, as well as border traffic, including, inter alia, destination or frequency of crossing the border. The survey results are presented for the external border, internal of the European Union within Poland, and for sea ports and airports.

Cross-border monitoring of entities of the national economy: once a year signal information "Characteristics of the border areas located by the external border of the European Union in Poland. Entities of the national economy" and publication "Structural changes of groups of entities of the national economy located in the border area by the external border of the European Union in Poland in 2015" (Polish-English version).

The studies contain the characteristics of entities of the national economy registered in the border area by the external border of the European Union in Poland.

"Guide to surveys and elaborations on cross-border areas", published every two years (Polish-English-Russian version). The publication presents surveys and elaborations devoted to cross-border areas.

Publication is prepared along with participation of the Statistical Office in Rzeszów (in cooperation with the CSO):

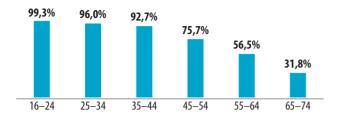
"Tourism in 2015" – once a year (Polish-English version).

The publication presents data on tourist infrastructure and its use, participation of Polish citizens in domestic and outbound trips, border traffic of means of transport, as well as Poles and foreigners.

Information society

Surveys on the use of Information and communication technologies (ICTs) in enterprises, and households and among individuals have been conducted in Statistical Offices of EU Member States since 2002. The methodology of both surveys is based on an Eurostat model after consultation with experts from the Statistical Offices of all member countries, Representatives of the European Commission and the OECD. At the same time, the national needs reported during the consultation of the drafting of the Programme of Statistical Surveys of Official Statistics (PBSSP) are taken into account when preparing the questionnaires. The main objective of the survey is to observe changes in equipment and the use of modern information and communication technologies, including computers and the Internet, as well as advanced services available on the Internet. The survey is conducted annually in April and May, and the results are published in October. Indicators describing the information society are used i. a. for planning development policy, and monitoring national, regional and voivodship strategic and program documents.

Internet usage in 2016 People aged 16–74



Principal use of Internet for private matters

in the last 3 months of 2016



57,8%



reading online news, newspapers or magazines

sending or receiving email

information searches about goods or services

Selected goods ordered via the Internet

in the last 12 months of 2016



26,2% clothing or sport equipment



16,3% furniture, household appliances, tools, toys and jewellery



9,4%

books, magazines, newspapers



9,0%

food, beverages, drugs, cosmetics, cleaning products



3,7% films, music

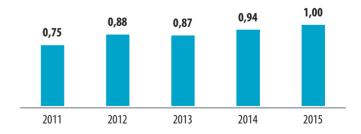


3,3% medicines

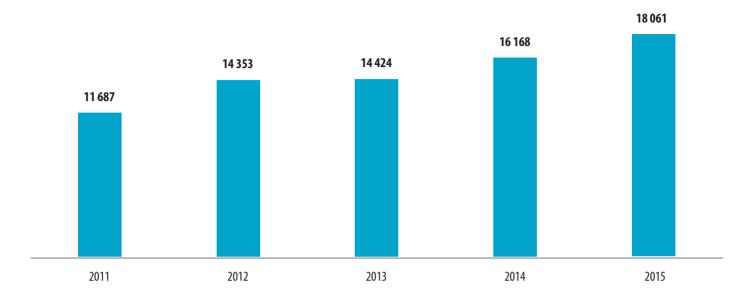
Research and development (R&D)

A statistical survey of research and development activities are conducted based on the methodological recommendations used by the OECD and the European Union countries, as outlined in the "2002 Frascati Handbook. The measurement of scientific and technological activities. Proposed standard practice for surveys on research and experimental development". Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 995/2012 of 26 October 2012 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the production and development of Community statistics on science and technology (Official Journal of European Union L 299 dated 26 October 2012, pp. 18-30) is also in force in Poland. Research and experimental development (R&D) comprise creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this knowledge to devise new applications. The term R&D covers three activities: basic research, applied research and experimental development. The R&D intensity (R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP) is used as a primary indicator of research and development activity, used for international comparisons.

Ratio of Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D to GDP as a percentage







Statistical quality of life measurement

The concept of statistical measuring the quality of life, adopted by the CSO, refers to the recommendations developed within the European Statistical System as well as to the rich tradition of Polish research in this area. A prerequisite for a multidimensional measurement of the quality of life is the integration of knowledge about various areas of life. This goal is achieved by the CSO both through the implementation of multifaceted surveys measuring the quality of life, and by combining information from multiple data sources, including surveys, statistical reporting and administrative sources.

A fundamental survey constituting the basis for a multifaceted diagnosis of the quality of life is a regular Social Cohesion Survey (BSS). Its wide material scope that includes both objective living conditions and subjective



experience of life, and the integrated microdata analysis of various areas of life, makes this survey unique on a European scale. The results of the last BSS edition of 2015 are systematically made available, in the form of notes, folders, research publications and infographics. Information based on the results of the BSS was also repeatedly presented by the CSO representatives at conferences and seminars organised by domestic and foreign institutions and organisations.

An example of how information from different sources can be combined is the annual publication "Quality of Life in Poland". It included a set of 60 indicators to monitor social phenomena related to all 9 priority areas of the European Statistical System. In 2016, the third edition of the survey was published.

Selected indicators of quality of life



Overall life satisfaction (2016)



Indicator of good health self-assessment (2016)



Lack of leisure time (2015)

Ш

30,0%



Satisfaction with job situation (2016)



Indicator of good self-assessment Trust in the national of household's budget (2015) government (2016)

Selected publications

Poland in figures 2015



A folder containing basic information on the social situation and state of Poland's economy in 2015 and in previous years. The publication also presents selected information about the regions of Poland. It also provides data on other EU countries and how Poland ranked against their background in 2015.

1050 years of Christianity in Poland



This jubilee brochure published on the occasion of the 1050th anniversary of the baptism of Poland. This 300-page elaboration, richly illustrated, (including maps, graphs and photos) is addressed to a wide audience of both adults and adolescents. The publication was prepared in cooperation with the Institu-

te for Catholic Church Statistics, mainly based on the results of the survey "Statistics of Catholic Church rites in Poland" and historical sources. In 11 monographic articles, the authors attempted to present the history of Christianity and the Catholic Church in Poland over more than ten centuries. "The 1050 years of Christianity in Poland" presents a broad perspective on the religiosity in Poland, its determinants, manifestations and diversity, as well as relations between Christianity and national identity. The publication might help to better understand the part occupied by Christianity in Polish history.

Information society in Poland. Results of statistical surveys of 2012–2016



The publication presents a review and discussion of research results in the field of information society development conducted by the official statistics services. These results are the primary source of information for the diagnosis and monitoring of the goals set up in the adopted development policy.

The publication comprehensively presents aspects of the development of the digital economy, including the development of the ICT industry, the use of ICT in economy and households and by households members in the age group 16–74 years. The publication contains also comparison with other EU countries.

Innovation activities of enterprises 2013-2015



Official statistics conducts a number of surveys regarding innovations in a broad sense. Innovation activity surveys, carried out on the basis of a standard international methodology presented in "Oslo Manual" under the aegis of OECD and Eurostat, play special role. The publication contains innovation

activities of industrial and service enterprises in the years 2013–2015. Data includes the expenditures made on innovation activities, intellectual property protection and cooperation with other entities, in this matter. Results of these surveys are frequently and widely used in innovation analyses, programmes, strategies, development policies and international comparisons.

Pro-family actions in the years 2010-2015



The publication provides reader with a description of pro-family activities or forms of activity on the part of the state, local government and non-profit organisations, which between 2010–2015 supported families with children and families with persons with disabilities. The main theme is preceded by a ge-

neral characteristics of families including families with children, to whom the aid is directed, as well as a broad analysis of the living conditions of the family household. This publication was prepared on the basis of the data obtained directly from the public research statistics, as well as on the basis the data coming from administrative registers.

Human capital in Poland in 2015



For the purposes of this study, the following statement by OECD has been adopted: Human capital is the knowledge, skills, competencies and attributes embodied in individuals that facilitate the creation of personal, social and economic well-being. The publication "Human capital in Poland 2015" presents indicators enabling

independent research and analysis in the following areas: demography, health, education, labour market, culture, science, technology and innovation as well as economic and social determinants of human capital development. The data were obtained from the official sets of statistics and non-statistical sources.

Time use survey 2013, part 2



The publication under the title "Time Use Survey 2013" presents results of the time use survey carried out in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013, and it is another elaboration concerning this topic. Similarly to the previous one issued in 2005, it contains the results of the survey conducted on the basis

of the methodology recommended by the European Statistical Office (Eurostat). The results of the time use survey provide information of the households and their members organisation of time which constitutes the important basis for leading to conclusions about various aspects of the population's life quality. Comparing the results from the 2013 survey with the previous research, conducted in the period 2003/2004, it is possible to observe changes in time management in the period of significant social and economic transformation in our country at the beginning of the 21st century.

Quality of life in Poland. Edition 2016



The 3rd edition of the publication presents the updated set of core indicators that enables the assessment of important areas of quality of life. It is assumed, that these factors include not only all objective circumstances in which a human lives, but also the subjective qu-

ality of life, as experienced by individuals, which is also known as the subjective well-being. Living conditions in a broad sense include, for instance, such specific thematic areas (also called domains) as: the material living conditions, health, education, economic activity, leisure time and social relationships, personal safety, the quality of the state and the fundamental rights, as well as the quality of the environment at the place of residence. The measurement of subjectively perceived well-being covers the perceived quality of life, i.e. the life satisfaction deriving from various aspects and as a whole, as well as the elements related to the emotional states and value system. This edition of the study presents the most up-to-date information mainly for the years 2015–2016.

On the path of sustainable development



Publication issued in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals designated by UN and included in the 2030 Agenda. This term originally stems from forestry management. It came down to a rule that in a forest only so many trees are felled as are re-grown – to preserve and protect the forest. The

current extended concept of sustainable development was formulated in a report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED): Our Common Future in 1987. The CSO publication presents initiatives that contribute to the implementation of sustainable development. The elaboration also presents challenges for official statistics and the practical steps that could be made in this matter by the Central Statistical Office. The publication is addressed to all those who want to find out about the sustainability concept and understand its relation to statistics.

New surveys in 2016

One of the tasks of the President of the Central Statistical Office is to recognise demand for information and statistical analyses and, on this basis, to prepare annual programmes of statistical surveys of official statistics, the range of topics is adjusted to the maximum to the needs of national and international recipients of statistical information.

The Programme of Statistical Surveys of Official Statistics (PBSSP) for 2016 was prepared by the Central Statistical Office together with other institutions, steered by authorities empowered to carry out official statistical surveys, pursuant to the Law on Official Statistics. The program, in addition to continuous surveys (conducted annually), also includes cyclic (conducted biennially or in longer periods) and new surveys, which might be continuous, cyclic or one-time surveys.

Continuous surveys enable to observe demographic, social, economic and environmental processes and provides an opportunity to assess the dynamics of occurring phenomena. The scope of continuous surveys is modified with regard to changes in socio-economic processes. Nowadays, there are significant changes in the surrounding reality, therefore official statistics meets the expectations of the recipients, enlarging information facilities each year and implementing new surveys in the program.

The scope of research in the PBSSP for 2016 was extended to include three new topics.

Access to services

The new "Access to Services" survey will be a cyclic module for the European Union Statistics on Income

and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). A set of additional modular questions in 2016 dealt with access to care and education services and related costs incurred by households. The questions raised in this survey allowed us to gather information on the scope of household use of institutionalised childcare up to 12 years of age, formal education and lifelong learning, health care services and professional home care for persons needing assistance.

The results of the survey, representative for the country as a whole, by socio-economic characteristics (including age, gender, level of education), include information on the use of services, their funding and the existence of unsatisfied needs in this regard.

Environmental and economic accounts for forests

Including the forestry satellite account in the European Environmental Economic Accounts in form of a forest module of the PBSSP for 2016, resulted in a new survey "Environmental and economic accounts for forests". It will ultimately be implemented as a continuous survey, exploiting the results of other surveys from 2014. The aim of the survey was to prepare a set of information characterising forests and forestry in Poland in order to draw a comprehensive picture of their role in the national economy. The data included economic accounts for forestry, taking into account the growing stock, the balance of forestry resources in physical terms and monetary units, and carbon balance in woody biomass and forest ecosystems. Data is developed for domestic and international needs (Eurostat). Results from the 2014 data survey have been available since August 2016.

Intermodal transport

In order to gather data to monitor the objectives of the White Paper (a roadmap to a Single European

Transport Area) adopted by the European Commission in March 2011, a new "Intermodal Transport" survey was introduced to the PBSSP for 2016. A great interest in information about intermodal transport was also expressed by governmental and scientific research institutions as well as entrepreneurs. The main objective of the survey was to obtain information about location, infrastructure and supply of equipment, level of park and handling facilities and efficiency of individual intermodal terminals in Poland. The survey should help identify transport chains in domestic and international transport, involving two or more modes of transport using unified load units (containers, swap bodies, semi-trailers). Information on this subject will be available in September 2017.

Public debt statistics

Following the new needs of official statistics, the National Accounts Department of the Central Statistical Office in co-operation with the Statistical Office in Wrocław developed two new statistical reports:

- AP-01 Statistical survey of enterprises with public capital.
- RF-03 Statement of general government sector units.

The report AP-01 is aimed at collecting information necessary to conduct analyses of sectoral classification of units in accordance with the requirements of the European System of National and Regional Accounts (ESA 2010). This data collection will allow the level of general government control over the surveyed entities to be assessed.

The AP-01 survey will cover units with public capital, employing 10 or more person. There will be about 3,000 units in the survey card index. The survey will

be carried out in 2017 for the first time, thus, figures will be collected for the year 2016.

The form RF-03 will allow us to gather information to compile data within the Fiscal Notification of the deficit and general government debt stock. It will cover issues and transactions not covered by budget reporting of local government units (LGU), such as: leaseback, in the formula of public-private partnership, including improvement of energy efficiency performance, total liabilities, assumption and cancellation of liabilities, unnamed long-term liabilities (the so-called trade credits), dividends received, increase of companies' equity, guarantees and securities granted, including standardised guarantees, non-performing loans and borrowings, and pre-consolidated balance sheet of the LGU. The survey constitutes a complement to the existing budget and statistical reporting, and allows for obtaining information on increasingly popular transactions made by LGU, that one cannot identify directly and evaluate on the basis of existing sources.

Information for the RF-03 report for the first will be collected in 2018 and will apply to 2017. The report will cover 2,826 local government units.

Both forms had been presented to the European Commission (Eurostat) and were positively evaluated by the EC as a tool to improve the quality of the studies implemented by the National Accounts Department of the CSO, in particular data developed for the purpose of the excessive deficit procedure (EDP).

Big Data

The modern world provides us with more and more solutions which simplify our lives every single day, for example an application that initially enabled to exchange the information about free parking lots in Brooklyn, and later it included additional functions. The number of such applications is constantly growing. Some of them gather data from various sources: GPS, public systems (e.g. bicycle loan scheme), etc. In other words, they use and combine data from places we probably might not have considered as reliable source of information. There are more and more of such unusual data source, that humanity can use for its own needs. We call it big data, which is – to put it simply – large, high-speed data volumes

Official statistics, just like any other state administrative area, should be up-to-date, develop along with the progress of civilisation, and take full advantage of new technologies the world offers. The challenge for official statistics is to face alternative source of data which has emerged in different means of social communication. Unusual sources of data, in view of their diversity, quantity and availability in real time (big data), represent a great potential for statistics. Accordingly, official statistics engages in national and international studies trying to verify big data's usability and a possibility to use it in official statistics. Currently intensive methodological work on the concept of Big Data application and creating the strategy for using it in statistics, are planned. There are already being developed surveys, which use analyses of the labour market taken from publicly available data on the websites, or data from measuring devices on the roads to examine transport.

The field of interest of statistics includes also:

- use of data from telecommunications operators as a source for calculating the statistics concerning the tourism or daily commutes,
- calculation of traffic patterns using sensors installed on the roads,

- use of the data generated by Twitter users to analyse moods and detect tourism activity,
- analysis of job vacancies, starting with offers published on web portals.

The use of big data would not only allow us to complete the data currently available in the statistics, but also make it possible to replace some of the traditionally conducted. This would reduce involvement of the citizens in filling in questionnaires and the statistical interviewers in collecting the data, remembering about upholding the current high level of data quality. For this purpose necessary are amendments to the legislation and detailed analytical work on suitability, quality, methodology and technical aspects enabling the use of this source for statistical surveys.

International cooperation











The Polish official statistics is a member and operates within the statistical systems of international organisations: the United Nations (UN) and its regional commission – the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the European Union (EU) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). It also cooperates with international statistical organisations.

Within the framework of cooperation, Poland, as the member of these international organisations, is obliged to regularly submit statistical data to the databases of these organisations and to participate in joint surveys, analyses and activities, which relate to better quality of statistics and international comparability of data.

In 2016 representatives of the CSO actively participated, inter alia, in the following activities:

European Union

- in the Council Working Party on Statistics (CWPS) meeting,
- in the preparation of instructions and positions for the representatives of the Republic of Poland, attending the meetings of the Council and its preparatory bodies,
- in the European Statistical System (ESS) bodies, in particular the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC) and the European Statistical Forum

(ESF), and at expert level – in Directors' Groups, Working Groups and Task Forces.

Polish experts also cooperated with National Statistical Institutes of non-EU countries, as part of the Eastern Partnership's Panel on Statistics, as well as developed regional and cross-border cooperation, usually at the level of the regional statistical offices.

UN and UNECE

- in the United Nations Statistical Commission UNSC (global level) and the Conference of European Statisticians – CES (European level),
- in the meetings of expert and working groups, as well as in conferences.

OECD

- in a Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy (CSSP) meeting,
- in the OECD Working Group meetings.

Works within the international statistical systems in 2016 focused primarily on following topics:

- Implementation of the European Statistical System Vision 2020 – work in the European Union which related to Business Registers (ESBRs), administrative data (ADMIN), communication (DIGICOM), big data (BIGD) and European statistical data exchange network (ESDEN),
- Monitoring indicators of Agenda 2030 involvement in the development of global indicator framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and active cooperation with the Economic

Commission for Europe in monitoring sustainable development goals in the region. The CSO also works together with other international organisations in monitoring the Goals and targets of Agenda 2030 (including Eurostat and the OECD),

- Quality of produced statistics works by the CSO on the ESS Quality Declaration and within the QUAL framework supporting the ESS Vision 2020. Implementation of actions streamlining the functioning of official statistics after the peer review,
- Implementation of the **priorities of the European Statistical Programme** 2013–2017 in line with the **Eurostat Annual Work Programme** 2016,
- Promotion of the European Statistics Code of Practice and Polish best practices on the international forum (study visits at the CSO),
- Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme
 (REFIT) Participation in the negotiation of legislative acts connected with the integrated data production of following types: social (Integrated European Social Statistics IESS), economic (Framework Regulation Integrating Business Statistics FRIBS) and of agricultural holdings (Integrated Farm Statistics IFS), during consultation over several stages in the framework of Eurostat, ESSC and CWPS,
- Statistics and geospatial information activities within the European Forum for Geography and Statistics (EFGS). Presentation of the results of subsequent stages of the international GEOSTAT projects aimed at creating visual statistical data in space. Exchange of experience on the Geostatistics Portal run by the CSO, during the Conference of European Statisticians,

Modernisation action – at the United Nations level

 work in the modernisation committees coordinated
 by the High Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG-MOS); at the European Union level – modernising action within the ESS, embedded in works in the framework of ESS Vision 2020. At national level, workshops on human resource training and management were organised in Kraków, in which 72 people from 34 countries took part. Workshops received a high appraisal of all participants.

Involvement of the official statistics services in the international projects

A significant element of activities on the international arena is the participation of official statistical services in the implementation of projects co-funded by the European Commission. The main activities are focused on adjusting national statistics to the changing demands of the European statistics (Poland is actively participating in their development). In 2016, the Polish official statistics services used the EC grants for individual projects and actively participated in international projects. The CSO has signed 15 new mono-beneficiary grant agreements and has joined to 4 international projects. In 2016, official statistics services were performing a total of 38 agreements co-funded by the European Commission.

It is essential to mention the participation of Polish experts in the pilot work of the international team, within the ESSnet project, preparing the entire ESS for the integration of big data sources as input in the production of official statistics. The project is carried out by more than 20 institutions from EU Member States and is significant because of the long-term impact on the future format of official statistics. The purpose of using big data in official statistics is to reduce both burdening the respondents and costs of statistical surveys.

Business trips of CSO employees and foreign delegations visiting official statistics

The CSO management participated in 12 high-level meetings. The experts of CSO, statistics offices and other units subordinated to the President of the CSO participated in 343 international meetings, more than 67% of which were organised within the EU. In addition, the CSO has received more than 150 delegates from 25 delegations from different countries and organisations, which have been dealing with numerous statistical issues in Poland.

The significant meetings organised in Poland included a visit headed by Mariana Kotzeva (the then Deputy Director-General for European Statistics). The meeting was focused on the modernisation of social statistics.

The units of the Polish official statistics hosted **trainees** from Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova and Turkey. The purpose of these traineeships was to show Poland' experience in the area of trainees' interest. The traineeships contributed to establishing the image of Polish statistics as open for international cooperation.

The participation of the CSO in projects in international forums, as well as the access to comparative data at international level is **intended to expand the comparative analyses** in the publications of Polish official statistics. The active participation in the process of law-making, setting the objectives and classifications and in defining of indicators guarantees a greater Polish impact on their shape. It also facilitates their swift and seamless implementation into Polish statistical regime. In a broader context it leads to ensuring that the Polish official statistics provide **the high-quality** and internationally comparable statistical information.

Important events for official statistics

The first half of 2016

No.	Subject of the conference/seminar (events organised or co-organised by the Central Statistical Office or the statistical office)	Organiser/co-organisers	Date of the event	Place of the event
1.	Meeting "The role of official statistics in planning and monitoring of cohesion policy at regional level"	CSO – Regional and Environmental Surveys Department	2–4 March	Serock
2.	Nationwide Scientific Conference "Social Challenges of Statistical Education" (on the occasion of the Day of Po- lish Statistics)	CSO – SO in Gdańsk	17–18 March	Gdynia
3.	Conference "Demographic Perspectives as Challenges for Population Politics in Poland"	The Government Popula- tion Council	26 April	Sejm of the Republic of Poland
4.	Seminar "Knowledge- and innovation-based economy as a motor of sustainable regional development. Monitoring scope and information needs"	SO in Zielona Góra	10–11 May	Sulechów
5.	Open Days of European Funds in CSO and Statistical Offices	CSO – Information De- partment, SO	12–13 May	CSO, SO
6.	Nationwide Scientific Conference "Youth Education and the Labour Market"	SO in Opole, University Opole, Voivodship Labo- ur Office	17 May	Opole University
7.	Seminar "Meeting statistics. Statistics and lies"	SO in Bydgoszcz; Kujaw- sko-Pomorska Higher School in Bydgoszcz	4 June	Bydgoszcz
8.	Seminar "Perspectives for demographic development – selected economic and social consequences"	Polish Statistical As- sociation – Branch in Warszawa	6 June	SO in Warszawa
9.	International Scientific Conference "Life quality of people with disabilities at the beginning of the 21st century"	SO in Wrocław, Wrocław University, Foundation "I don't see any problem", Student Scientific Circle "Rising Business Leaders"	9–10 June	Wrocław
10.	Nationwide Scientific Conference "Statistical identification of connections in the socio-economic space"	CSO – SO in Poznań	14–15 June	Poznań

The second half of 2016

No.	Subject of the conference/seminar (events organised or co-organised by the Central Statistical Office or the statistical office)	Organiser/co-organisers	Date of the event	Place of the event
11.	Workshop on Human Resources Management and Training	CSO – European Economic Com- mission UN	7–9 September	Kraków
12.	Conference "Space, Economy, Society – Dimensions of Poles Mobility in the 21st Century"	CSO, SO in Lublin, Polish Statistical Association – Branch in Lublin	26–27 September	Kazimierz Dolny
13.	Conference "The Demographic Situation of the Łódź Voivodship as a Challenge for Social and Economic Policy"	Government Population Council, Governor of the Province of Łódź, in cooperation with the SO in Łódź and Łódź University	29 September	Łódź
14.	Scientific-practical conference "Development of the social economy in Lower Silesian Voivodship"	SO in Wrocław, Lower Silesian Center for Social Policy, Wrocław Economic University	14 October	Wrocław
15.	International Seminar "Increasing significance and development of statistical surveys in the third sector/social economy"	CSO – Social Surveys and Living Conditions Department, Ministry of Family Labour and Social Policy	27–28 October	CSO
16.	Conference "The Demographic Situation of the Wielkopolskie Voivodship as a Challenge for Social and Economic Policy"	The Government, Population Council, The Governor of the Wielkopolskie Province, SO in Poznań	7 November	Wielkopolska Voivodship Office in Poznań
17.	Seminar "NBP and CSO – Two Links of Economic Education"	SO in Kraków, District Branch of the National Bank of Poland	16 November	International Cultu- ral Centre in Kraków
18.	International Scientific Conference "Quality of life and spatial cohesion. Interactions of development and well-being in the local context"	CSO (Operational Program Technical Assistance), Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warszawa	17–18 November	Cardinal Stefan Wy- szynski University
19.	V Zielona Góra Meetings with Demography. Scientific Conference "Chances and challenges of regional development in the context of demographic change in Europe"	SO in Zielona Góra, Zielona Góra University, Polish Historical Society – Branch in Zielona Góra, Polish Statistical Association – Branch in Zielona Góra	22–23 November	Library of the Zielo- na Góra University
20.	Conference "Official statistics in the service of local self-government – new perspectives and challenges"	CSO – SO in Wrocław	1–2 December	Wrocław
21.	Scientific Seminar "The role of the Statistical Office in Szczecin in the development of maritime stati- stics in Poland" (Seminar on the 20th anniversary of the Maritime Statistics Center)	CSO, SO in Szczecin, Polish Statistical Association – Branch in Szczecin	19 December	Szczecin University

Outside the office

Statistics socially engaged

Since the inception of the Polish official statistics, it has had as its objective an implementation of the assigned tasks in an efficient and effective manner. We still keep in mind that no work is so important or urgent to be done without proper care of other people and surrounding. The idea of the social responsibility provides is with the stimulus to take part in the out-of-work activities. We try to raise our awareness in the area of environmental protection, preventive healthcare, also support the initiatives of NGO's and the groups of people who are facing the threat of social exclusion.

In 2016, the CSO and Statistical Offices actively supported many charity actions. The most important of them were:

- The 8th Review of Children's Artistic Presentations "Flowers of Integration", an event organised by Janusz Korczak Integration Nursery School No. 137 in Warszawa. The main objective of the was to show the benefits of integrating the healthy and the handicapped children.
- The 7th Polish Football Championships for Children from Orphanages, Poland's largest sports event for children from social care centres and orphanages. In this year's edition of the tournament participated 40 teams from all over Poland. 400 young players competed on the pitch. Later they received small gifts from the Central Statistical Office.

 "Szlachetna Paczka" (The Noble Box) – a project of WIOSNA Association, which, in a unique way, inspires to share with other people (supported by the CSO, CIS, ZWS employees, as well as Statistical Offices in Poznań, Rzeszów, Szczecin and Kielce).

The statisticians also offered a financial and material assistance to orphanages. We also donated blood during voluntary blood donation sessions organised in Warszawa and Szczecin and assisted in the activation of the long-term unemployed and those facing the threat of social exclusion (trainings – SO in Łódź, social rehabilitation of the prisoners by employing them in the Statistical Office in Wroclaw, collecting plastic bottle caps for the purchase of wheelchairs). Many of us were involved in volunteering and in the lives of local communities.

Official statistics has set itself the primary objective for coming years to engage in the activities in the matter of various disabilities.

Athletes in the statistics

"A healthy mind in a healthy body" – many statistics employees hold the view, by engaging in various forms of sporting activity. Sport after work is an opportunity for unassuming get-togethers and sound competition. Non-business meetings are also an opportunity for team building and creation of a positive atmosphere.

A large group of employees are active **volleyball fans**. The teams consists of the CSO, ZWS, CIS and SO Wrocław employees. Athletes train with commitment and they are pretty successful. In 2016, volleyball players took part in the XXVII International Volleyball Tournament for Statisticians (EVS) in the capital of Slovakia – Bratislava. Among 26 teams from all over Europe, our teams were in the top ten, taking 2nd, 7th and 9th place.

Currently our volleyball players are preparing for the next tournament in June 2017 in Wiesbaden (Germany).

In CSO, CIS and Statistical Offices you can find **football teams**. Each year they compete in the tournament for "The CSO President's Cup". The last competition took place in Warszawa. Eleven teams participated in it – nine from Poland, as well as guests from abroad – Czech and Hungarian teams. The matches in the group stage were vey fierce. The CSO and SO Lublin teams qualified for the finals of the tournament. After the exciting competition, the winner (and the defending champions at the same time) was the team of the CSO. In 2017 the Statistical Office in Lublin will host the tournament.

Apart from the team games, among the official statistics employees there is a vast circle of fans of the individual sports, such as **tennis**.

On the CSO site there is an outdoor tennis clay court made of red brick. When the weather is good, employees can practice their tennis skills over there. A final effect of the trainings is the annually held (always in September) Tennis Tournament for the Cup of the President of the CSO. The games usually begin on Friday after work and continue until Sunday. This cultural and sporting event is highly popular not only among the CSO employees, but also among the families and friends who come to support the players. According to the tournament rules, the following games are played: women's and men's singles for the CSO, CIS, ZWS and CBS employees (also pensioners), men's doubles and mixed doubles these two categories can be played by the employees (also pensioners) with an accompanying person outside the CSO. During the warmer season, besides the tournaments, people at all levels can participate in trainings and supplementary games with the experienced colleagues from the CSO.

Running gives the energy boost and is a way to stay fit and healthy, to relax and spend time in an interesting way. The statisticians also know about it and participate in races and commemorative marathons. Among the initiatives for runners the Bydgoszcz Birthday Run should be mentioned. It was organised by the City Hall of Bydgoszcz on the 670th anniversary of the city. The female colleagues who participated in the race, with the SO logotype on the team jerseys, finished the race in the lead. Thus, they proved their excellent physical fitness and the competitive spirit. In Zielona Góra the 7th Vine Harvest Race was organised. The statisticians were represented by two teams - USSTAT LOBR TEAM and BiegUSki. Each competitor had to run 2,5 km in the strict centre of Zielona Góra. The statisticians from the SO in Lublin had a one mile race, paying tribute to the victims of communism.

Among the statisticians there are also many cycling lovers, who each year compete in the European Cycling Challenge (European urban cyclists' team competition, the biggest cycling event in Europe). The teams from Statistical Offices in Bydgoszcz, Gdańsk, Warszawa, Łódź, Poznań and Wrocław have ridden thousands of kilometres and, thus, made a considerable contribution to the dominance of the Polish cities in the competition.

In the following year, the statisticians are ready to beat new records, and count both kilometres and victorious matches and cups.



The 8th Review of Children's Artistic Presentations "Flowers of Integration", organised by Janusz Korczak Integration Nursery School No. 137 in Warszawa



Honorary blood donation organised by CSO on 9 September 2016



Members of the winning CSO football team – finals of the CSO President's Cup in Warszawa