



IPUMS – Europe
Country Report: POLAND

FIRST DRAFT

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Table of contents

1. History of census taking in Poland

2. Census documentation

2.1 Enumeration forms

2.2 Instructions to enumerators

2.3 Codebooks for microdata

2.4. Technical reports, data processing documentation

2.5 Other documentation

3. History of census microdata (table 2)

3.1 Census characteristics

3.2 Microdata sample

4. Contents of microdata files

4.1 Population census

4.2 Building and housing census

5. Harmonisation (1978 to 2002)

5.1 General remarks

5.2 Variables

a) Social variables

b) Administrative geography and migration

c) Educational variables

d) Economic variables

e) Demographic variables

f) Dwelling variables

6. Completeness of enumeration

7. Publications

Bibliography

1. History of census taking in Poland

The first numerical information on population of Polish lands began to appear in the Middle Ages, including: in the Chronicle of Gallus Anonymous (ca. 1113-1116), in the papal documents, and - since the fifteenth century - also in the books of the salaries of bishoprics. From the sixteenth century the population was given in the national tax records, and royal lands inspections - prepared mainly for taxation and military use.

The first nationwide census in the Polish territories was a census under the name "Census of fumes and population" carried out on the basis of the Constitution of June 22, 1789, passed by the Four-Year Sejm (Parliament) (1788-1792). Census 1789 results were used to adopt a resolution on a tax intended to cover the costs of maintaining a permanent army. Thanks to this census, Poland found itself at the forefront of countries that such a survey were able to carry out.

The next censuses were conducted in the period of the Partitions of Poland:

- in the Duchy of Warsaw in 1808 and 1810,
- in the Polish Kingdom in 1827 and 1897,
- in Galicia (Austro-Hungarian monarchy), at 10 years - from 1857 until 1910,
- in Prussia, every 5 years, from 1871 to 1910.

The Central Statistical Office, after establishing in 1918 as the first public institution of the independent state, began to prepare the first census of the population across the Polish Republic which was conducted in 1921. Until now, nine censuses of population and housing were carried out in Poland, that is in: 1921, 1931, 1950, 1960, 1970, 1978, 1988, 2002 and 2011, as well as one summary census in 1946 and three microcensuses in 1974, 1984 and 1995.

Availability of census data for users

In Poland, census data have been captured, processed and stored electronically from 1970. The complete data files are recorded on tapes (1970, 1978, 1988, 1995) or stored in the Central Statistical Office (CSO) internal data warehouse (2002).

As a general rule, the censuses individual data or any sample files have not been accessible for public use. The only exception was data from the census 2002, on which researchers had the possibility to conduct analysis in the restricted area inside the building of CSO in Warsaw.

In the late 2000's aggregated files containing results of census 2002 were produced and uploaded to the population database called DEMOGRAPHY and to the Local Data Bank – official databases accessible via the Polish public statistics website. The amount of tables from the 2002 census stored in the databases accessible for external users has been steadily growing.

2. Census documentation

In Poland, works related to the collection of relevant documentation of population censuses for the IPUMS project are still in progress. Most of them are already collected, scanned and partially translated into English. Currently, work on translation of documents into English are being developed. The following information concerns censuses from 1978 to 2002.

2.1 Enumeration forms

In the 1978-2002 censuses, "Questionnaire A – Population and housing" was the essential tool for enumerators. Additionally, a form for the building (so-called card of building) had to be filled in. In 1988, 1995 and 2002 censuses were also used forms for fertility survey.

Census	Questionnaire	Purpose
1978	A - Population and housing	dwelling, building, households, individuals
	Az – Collective housing	collective households
	B – Population sample survey	additional questions for randomly selected individuals
	C - Vacants	list of not inhabited dwellings
1988	A - Population and housing	dwelling, building, households, individuals
	B - Fertility	sample survey for women born during 1919-1973
1995	A - Population and housing	dwelling, building, households, individuals
2002	A - Population and housing	dwelling, building, households, individuals
	M - Migration	migrations between 1989 and 2002
	D - Fertility	sample survey for women aged 16 and older

All questionnaires and some explanations are already translated into English and are part of the documentation.

2.2 Instructions to enumerators

Instructions to enumerators are fundamental part of the documentation concerning the methodology of population and housing censuses in Poland. The size of the booklets was similar in each census.

Census	title	Languages
1978	Instructions for census enumerator	Polish
1988	Instruction on the methodology for carrying out the National Census in 1988	Polish – translation into English in progress
1995	Instruction on the methodology of the Population and Housing Census in 1995	Polish – translation into English in progress
2002	Enumerator Manual for National Census of Population and Housing in 2002	Polish, English

2.3 Codebooks for microdata

For the purposes of census results processing, Central Statistical Office produced detailed instructions, classifications and guidelines for each census in Poland.

These booklets have been a tool for data coders as well as database users. They are part of the documentation – currently only in Polish language.

Census	Title
1978	Coding instruction for housing and population characteristics (A,Az)
1988	Coding instruction for housing and population characteristics
	Classification of housing and population characteristics
	A detailed explanation of the classification of national economy
1995	Coding instruction for housing and population characteristics
	Guidelines for coding of selected characteristics of population
	Classification of occupational groups
2002	Coding instruction for housing and population characteristics

2.4. Technical reports, data processing documentation

General technical reports of all censuses were published as a part of the following documents:

Census	Title
1978	Methodology and organization. Census on 7 th December 1978
1988	Methodology and organization of Census 1988
1995	Methodology and organization of microcensuses. (Published in 1998)
2002	Organization of National Censuses. (Published in 2004)

There are some reports on the final data checks and instructions for automatic and manual processing, but not published.

2.5 Other documentation

After each census Central Statistical Office issued elaborate reports with the comprehensive summary information concerning finished census (documents listed above in p.2.4).

3. History of census microdata (table 2)

3.1 Census characteristics

The population census plays a central role in the Polish official statistics system by providing a reliable estimate and characteristics of the population at all territorial levels. Described in this report Polish censuses were based on the field enumeration, where forms were completed by the interviewer/enumerator. The 1978 and 1988 population and housing censuses were carried out in December, 1995 and 2002 in May by the Central Statistical Office. The scope of the enumerated population were 100 percent except for the microcensus 1995 – 5 percent.

Census	Critical moment of the census	Field work
1978	midnight 6/7 December 1978	7-13 December 1978
1988	midnight 6/7 December 1988	7 - 12 December 1988
1995	midnight 17/18 May 1995	18-31 May 1995
2002	midnight 20/21 May 2002	21 May -8 June

All mentioned above censuses covered:

- persons who permanently or temporarily resided in dwellings, buildings, facilities and premises which are not dwellings;
- dwellings and buildings in which dwellings are located, and residential facilities of collective accommodation, as well as other inhabited premises which are not dwellings;
- homeless people (only in 2002).

The censuses did not cover:

- superiors of foreign personnel in diplomatic posts and consular offices of other countries, members of the families of those persons, and other individuals entitled to privileges and immunities pursuant to agreements, Acts, or commonly-established international customs;
- dwellings, buildings, facilities, and premises owned by diplomatic posts and consular offices of other countries.

3.2 Microdata sample

The data of the Census 2002 prepared for IPUMS Project are a systematic sample of every 10th private household after a random start, drawn by Statistical Office in Olsztyn. Population of collective households was also sampled - every 10th person in the household. The units identified in the data are buildings, dwellings, households, families and individuals.

The definition of private household adopted in Polish censuses is compatible with the “housekeeping unit concept”, i.e. a group of persons (related or not) who live together and share the

typical living costs. If a person only shares the flat with other persons and do not share any cost, the person forms a separate household (one person household).

From 1978 upwards a dwelling is defined as a space within a building, set of rooms or one room including auxiliary rooms that was built or adapted to be used for housing purposes and which is permanently separated (by permanent walls) from other spaces in the building and that can be entered by a separate entrance form outside, from the staircase or a common hall.

4. Contents of microdata files

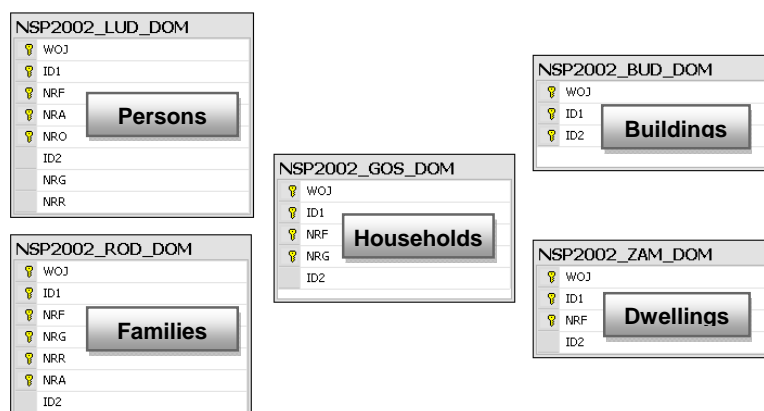
4.1 Population census

Microdata files contain most of variables available from the population census 2002. The detailed list of variables are described in Excel file. Data concerning population are related with data on families and households.

Regarding the previous censuses microdata, Statistical Office in Olsztyn is currently on the way to restore the data from the tapes and to build a solid database.

Sample microdata of the Census 2002 are saved in 5 files (buildings, dwellings, households, families, persons) related to each other.

Microdata files of Census 2002



4.2 Building and housing census

Census 2002 results concerning buildings and dwellings are also available in microdata files and are linked with the data on population.

The table below shows examples of variables available in the restored microdata files:

No	Description of a building in the Census 2002
1	Type of a building
2	Owner of a building
3	Piped water in a building
4	Sewage in a building
5	Number of occupied dwellings
6	Number of vacant dwellings
7	Number of rooms in a building
8	Number of dwellings in a building
9	Number of residents of a building
10	Period of construction
11	Total floor space of all dwellings in a building
12	Piped gas in a building
13	Central heating in a building

5. Harmonisation (1978 to 2002)

5.1 General remarks

In all Polish censuses it was important to obtain information about issues that were covered by the previous censuses. It is still necessary to conduct comparative analyses of developments over time and to describe the changes that have occurred in demographic, social and economic processes, in terms of: population, dwellings and buildings status, and households and families, in relation to housing conditions. The planned works on harmonisation will allow the completion of time series and comparison with results from previous censuses.

International recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses play an important role when developing questionnaires and determining variables and their categories, for example the UNECE Recommendations or the guidelines for the Community programme (Eurostat) and international classifications. The characteristics asked in Poland meet the scope of the core variable programme of the UNECE.

During the censuses conducted in Poland in the period 1978-2002, the coding schemes of comparable variables has changed in some cases (e.g. in the field of migrations, occupational classification, education, geography, current activity status etc.). Nevertheless, there are many variables that are comparable from one census to another.

5.2 Variables

a) Social variables

In Polish censuses information on the marital status of each person were collected for persons aged 15 and over. In the censuses of 1978 and 1988 persons were asked about de facto marital status. According to the UNECE Recommendations, the Census of 2002 included questions about legal marital status, however, a layout of census questions and their relations were designed to obtain results of both legal marital status as well as *de facto* marital status (e.g. derived from information collected on topics related to household and family characteristics of a person, in particular the relationship to the head of a household).

Characteristic	Census		
	1978	1988	2002
Relationship to the head of a household	x	x	x
Type of biological family	-	x	x
Marital status	x	x	x
Main source of livelihood of a household	x	x	x

b) Administrative geography and migration

In Poland, geographic variables have changed substantially in the recent years, mainly as a result of the general changes of administrative divisions in:

- June 1975 (49 voivodships - NUTS-2, 2343 gminas – LAU-2 and 814 towns - LAU-2)
- January 1999 (16 voivodships – NUTS-2, 379 powiats – LAU-1, 2479 gminas/communes - LAU-2),
- 1991-1992 – changes of gminas/communities (LAU-2) status,
- each year - many local boundary changes.

The table below shows some main censuses variables concerning geography and migration.

Characteristic	Census		
	1978	1988	2002
Place of birth / Country of birth	x	-	x
Since when a person lives in the locality	x	x	x
Symbol of the powiat of current place of residence	-	-	x
Type of community (gmina)	-	x	x
Symbol of the voivodship of current place of residence	x	x	x
Previous place of residence	x	x	x
Reason of migration	x	-	x
Migration plans	x	-	x
Commuting	x	-	-

At present, the microdata sample files are affected by the problem of regional and local incomparability. Thanks to the territorial division register which is maintained at Central Statistical Office, regional comparability will be possible after converting data of the administration divisions.

c) Educational variables

Regarding educational characteristics, censuses are the most important source of data.

Characteristic	Census		
	1978	1988	2002
Level of education	x	x	x
Type of education (mechanical, agricultural, medical)	x	x	-
School attendance	x	x	x
Literacy	x	-	-

d) Economic variables

Linking demographic characteristics with socio-economic characteristics significantly expands the possibilities for analysis. Group of questions included in the census forms were modified from census to census. The biggest changes occurred in the census 2002, which for the first time studied the current economic activity, not a permanent (as in previous censuses), and therefore the issues concerning sources of livelihood has been separated from economic activity of population.

The table below shows the variables which make the basis for characterization of socio-economic structure of population on the basis of censuses results.

Characteristic	Census		
	1978	1988	2002
Main source of livelihood of a person	x	x	x
Additional source of livelihood of a person	x	x	x
For employees – information on main job			
Kind of economic activity of the main employer	x	x	x
Type of employment/employment status	x	x	x
Occupation	x	x	x
For employees – information on additional job			
Kind of economic activity of the additional employer	x	x	x
Type of employment/employment status	x	x	x
Occupation	-	-	x
For the unemployed			
Seeking employment	-	-	x
Ability to start employment	-	-	x
Duration of seeking employment	-	-	x
For persons with non-earned source of maintenance			
Type of non-earned source of income	x	x	x
Socio-economic group	x	-	-
Dependent on the family	x	x	x
Reason for economic inactivity	x	-	x
For persons related to agriculture			
The total area of an agricultural holding (farm)	x	x	x
Number of months worked in own agricultural holding (farm) during the last 12 months	x	x	x
Main source of livelihood of a household	x	x	x

e) Demographic variables

Date of birth (age) - In all these censuses, the way of asking the questions about age was not the same. In the census of 1978 and 1988 people were asked only about the year of birth. Note, however, that the conversion of birth year on the number of years was not exact. During The National Census of 2002 people were asked about the exact date of birth (day, month, year).

Characteristic	Census		
	1978	1988	2002
Sex	x	x	x
Date of birth (2002), year of birth (1978, 1988)	x	x	x
Citizenship	-	-	x
Nationality	-	-	x
Language	-	-	x
Biological disability	-	x	x
Legal disability	x	x	x
Fertility	x	x	x

In the international recommendations for censuses 2000 citizenship was included as a compulsory (core) topic, and ethnic group (nationality) and language (used every day) - as a complementary topics. Additional features were included in the census of 2002, due to the need to know Polish ethnic structure, after a long period of absence of such information.

f) Dwelling variables

In Poland, housing census data were collected by enumerators on the same form as for the population census, i.e. on the "Questionnaire A - Population and housing".

Characteristic	Census		
	1978	1988	2002
General characteristics			
Location of living quarters	x	x	x
Type of living quarters	x	x	x
Type of ownership	x	x	x
Number of rooms	x	x	x
Number of rooms used for business purposes only	-	-	x
Useful floor space	x	x	x
Floor space used for business purposes only	-	-	x
Amenities and facilities			
Number of kitchens	x	x	x
Piped water / water supply system	x	x	x
Running hot water	x	x	x
Place of heating the water	-	-	x
Toilet facilities / Flush toilet	x	x	x
Bathroom	x	x	x
Piped gas	x	x	x
Type of heating	x	x	x
Main type of energy used for heating	x	x	x

6. Completeness of enumeration

In Poland, evaluation of all censuses results has always been a very important operation, among others, due to the distribution of subsidies to gminas (communities).

To evaluate the quality and completeness of censuses data, such methods were used: quality and coverage post-enumeration survey, field re-interviews and demographic analysis.

Completeness of the Census 2002 was 100 percent, because in special cases (e.g. no contact, refusals) there was a possibility to get data from administration sources (e.g. population records in gminas) – it concerned 2 percent of the total population.

7. Publications

The results of the population and housing censuses were published in a series of publications. First of all, main results for communes, which contain tables without an analytical volume and publications for each voivodship (tables and analytical chapter) and for the whole country.

Census	Type of publication	level (number of titles)
1978	Many CSO Publications, e.g.: The demographic and socio-occupational structure of population.	gminas (1), voivodships and Poland (several)
1988	166 multiple correlation tables (127 on population, 39 on dwellings) hundreds of publications	gminas (1), voivodships (3), Poland (14)
1995	Many CSO Publications, e.g.: The demographic and socio-occupational structure of population.	voivodships (1), Poland (4)
2002	Dozens of published tabular and analytical publications containing the results of the census at all levels of territorial division.	gminas (1), voivodships(11), Poland (14)

Additionally, census results are presented in the Statistical Yearbooks, in the Yearbooks of Demography, in the Central Statistical Library in Warsaw and in the Internet official databases: “Demography” and “Local Data Bank”.

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APPENDIX
POPULATION - based on censuses data

DATE OF CENSUSES	Total	Males	Females	Urban areas			Rural areas			Females per 100 males	Population	
				total	males	females	total	males	females		of urban areas as a percentage total	per 1 km ²
YEARS	<i>in thousands</i>											
14 II 1946	23930	10954	12976	7517	3258	4259	16109	7409	8700	118	31,8	77
3 XII 1950	25008	11928	13080	9605	4410	5195	15009	7136	7873	110	39,0	80
6 XII 1960	29776	14404	15372	14206	6735	7471	15200	7324	7876	107	48,3	95
8 XII 1970	32642	15854	16788	17064	8172	8892	15578	7682	7896	106	52,3	104
30 III 1974	33636	16313	17323	18213	8704	9509	15423	7609	7814	106	54,1	108
7 XII 1978	35061	17079	17982	20150	9672	10478	14911	7407	7504	105	57,5	112
6 XII 1984	37026	18026	19000	22183	10624	11559	14843	7402	7441	105	59,9	118
7 XII 1988	37879	18465	19414	23175	11121	12054	14704	7344	7360	105	61,2	121
17 V 1995	38620	18771	19849	23777	11360	12417	14843	7411	7432	106	61,6	124
20 V 2002	38230	18516	19714	23610	11234	12376	14620	7282	7338	106	61,8	122