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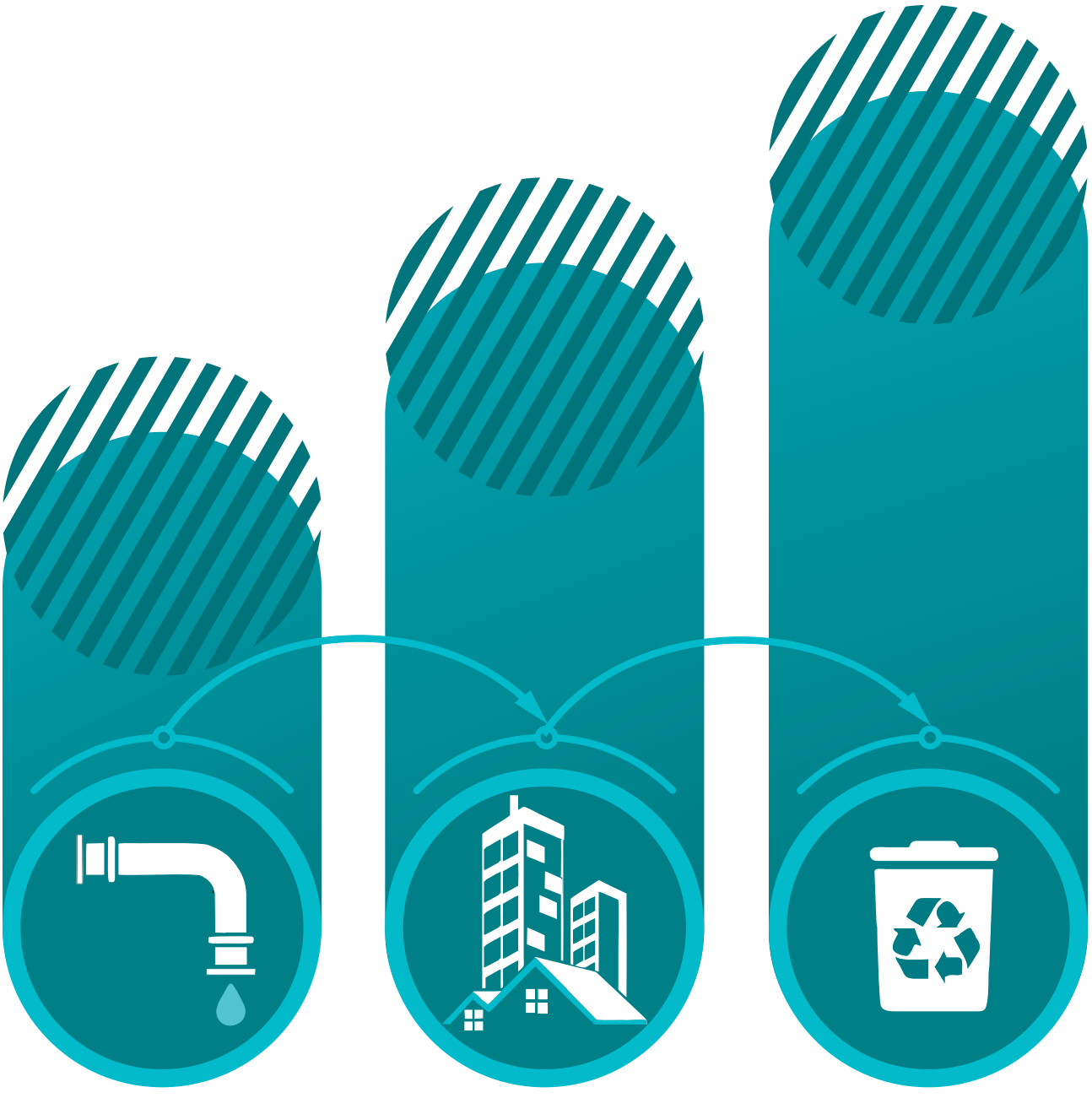

Housing Economy and Municipal Infrastructure in 2019

Warsaw 2020

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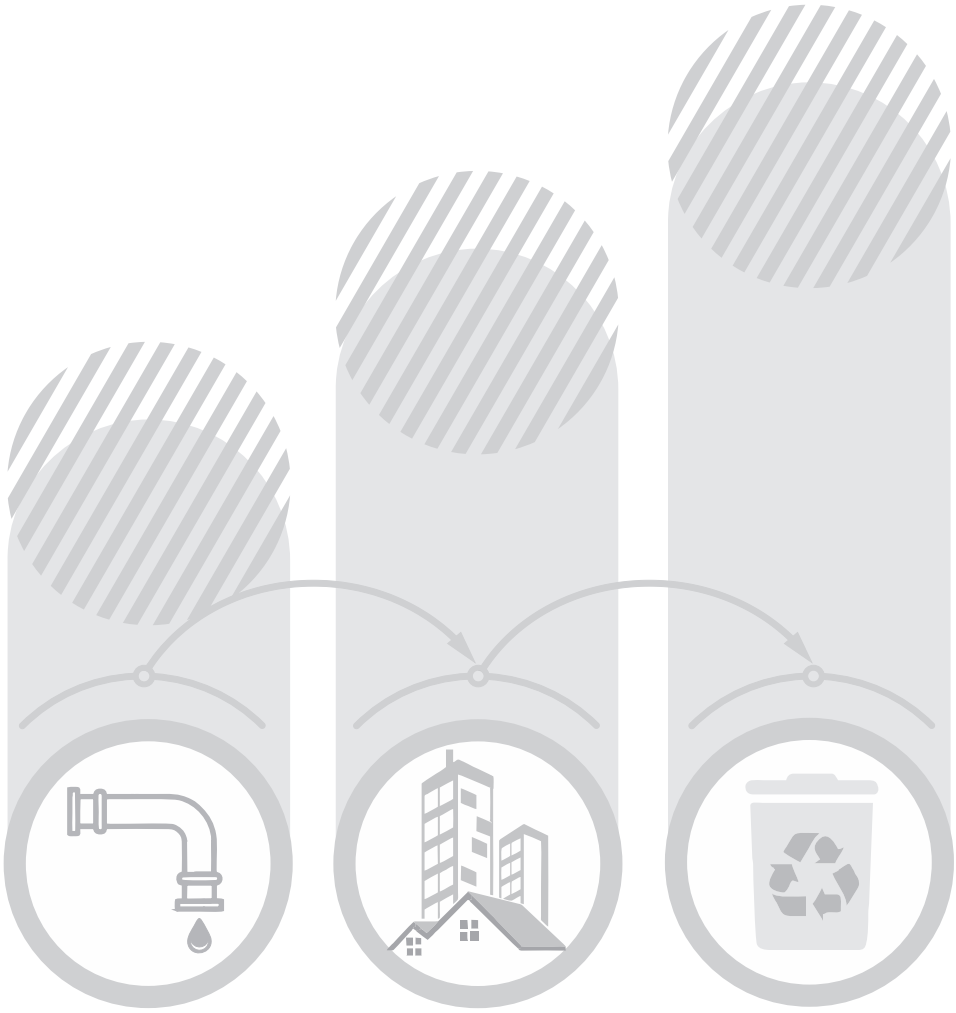

Housing Economy and Municipal Infrastructure in 2019

Statistics Poland

Warsaw 2020

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Preface

"Housing Economy and Municipal Infrastructure in 2019" is a publication devoted to the management of dwelling stocks, as well as the provision of municipal and household services in Poland. Information presented in this study characterises the housing conditions, as well as the state of the technical infrastructure facilitating the provision of services necessary to provide for collective needs of the society within the scope of the own tasks of gminas, as well as enables observation of changes occurring in the examined area of activity.

The study presents the general condition of the dwelling stocks along with basic indicators describing the housing conditions of the population. The paper provides information on the housing allowances paid in 2019, the land designated for housing construction, as well as the dwelling stocks of gminas, including the social rental of premises. Additionally, for the first time, the study contains data on the stocks of temporary premises owned by gminas.

The publication includes information on municipal facilities and services in the field of water, sewage and heat management, electricity and network gas distribution, collection and processing of municipal waste by location of facilities or the place of providing municipal services in Poland in general, as well as by voivodships, and urban and rural areas.

The publication uses the results of the balance of dwelling stocks and the reporting of entities dealing with the management of dwelling stocks. The presented information on the municipal infrastructure was prepared, among others, on the basis of data obtained from entities operating in the field of collective water supply and collective sewage removal from households, as well as data concerning liquid waste, provided to the offices of gminas by entities dealing with their collection and transport. It also presents the results of the survey of entities operating in the field of distribution of electricity, heat energy or gas from gas supply system, as well as those involved in the collection of municipal waste or their processing. The subject scope was presented by voivodships. Information at lower levels of aggregation (poviats and gminas), as well as by urban and rural areas was made available in the Local Data Bank on the website of Statistics Poland (http://www.stat.gov.pl).

Planning further development of research in the field of municipal infrastructure, the authors will be grateful to all persons and institutions for providing suggestions and comments which would contribute to shaping and enriching the content of subsequent editions of this publication.

Director
of Trade and Services Department

Ewa Adach-Stankiewicz

President
Statistics Poland

Dominik Rozkrut, Ph. D.

Warsaw, November 2020

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Symbols

Symbol	Description
(.)	data not available, classified data (statistical confidentiality) or providing data impossible or purposeless
(–)	magnitude zero
"Of which"	indicates that not all elements of the sum are given

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
m	metre
m^2	square metre
m^3	cubic metre
dam^3	cubic decametre
hm^3	cubic hectometre
km	kilometre
km^2	square kilometre
ha	hectare
kg	kilogram
t	tonne
kWh	kilowatt-hour
GWh	gigawatt-hour
MJ	megajoule
TJ	terajoule
pcs	pieces
approx.	approximately

Executive summary

As of 31 December 2019, Poland's dwelling stocks increased compared to 2018 and amounted to 14.8 million **dwellings** with a total **useful floor area** of 1,101.4 million m^2, with 56.6 million rooms.

As of the end of 2019, the number of **residential premises** from gminas' dwelling stocks with **social rental contracts** (excluding replacement premises and temporary premises) amounted to 641,801 while their useful floor area to 28,577.6 thousand m^2 of which 73,970 premises with area of 2,520.6 thousand m^2 with social rental contracts. The average useful floor area of rented premises in gminas' dwelling stocks was 44.5 m^2.

In 2019, the **number of households awaiting gminas' housing stocks rental** amounted to 150,579 and compared to 2018 increased by 0.8%; at the same time 81,214 households were on the social rental waiting list. In 2019, 2.9 million housing allowances for the total amount of PLN 595.8 million were paid. Compared with 2018, there was a decrease both in their number (by 11.0%) and amount (by 10.4%). In 2019, gminas handed over to investors 766.6 ha of land for housing construction, of which 84.8% was meant for single-family housing.

Similarly to previous years, in 2019 there were noted further investments in the area of sanitary and technical infrastructure. As of the end of 2019, there was an increase in both the length of **water supply network** and **sewage network** (to 310.9 thousand km and 165.1 thousand km, respectively), and the number of water supply system and sewage system connections (to approx. 5.8 million pcs and 3.5 million pcs, respectively). The **average water consumption** in households also increased (to approx. 33.7 m^3 per 1 inhabitant) as well as the amount **of sewage discharged from households** (to 979.5 hm^3).

In Poland as of the end of 2019, there was noted more **household systems for discharging of liquid waste** (approx. 2,425.2 thousand pcs), of which almost 90% were septic tanks, from which about 27.2 hm^3 of **liquid household waste** was collected. The number of dump stations operational as of the end of 2019 also slightly increased (to 2,349 pcs).

Total consumption of electricity by households in Poland in 2019 slightly increased and reached the level of approx. 30,613.2 GWh, whereas **consumption of electricity per consumer** in households decreased and amounted 1,963.9 kWh.

As of the end of 2019, both the length of total **gas supply network** and gas connections increased and reached 157.9 thousand km and 52.8 thousand km, respectively. **Consumption of gas from gas supply system** in households increased in 2019 to 47,855.3 GWh with a simultaneous increase in the number of consumers of 1.9%.

The total length of the **heating network** as of the end of 2019 amounted to 25.250,6 km, of which 64.9% was the transmission and distribution network (16,381.2 km), and 35.1% – connections to buildings (8,869.4 km). In 2019, the heat sales volume was 191.2 thousand TJ, of which 148.6 thousand TJ (77.7%) pertained heating of residential buildings.

In 2019, in Poland there was noted an increase in the amount of **municipal waste** generated – to 12,752.8 thousand tonnes (of which 84.5% originated from households). The average amount of **municipal waste generated per inhabitant** also increased (to 332 kg). In 2019, there was noted an increase (of 31.2%) in the share of municipal waste collected separately in the total amount of municipal waste generated. In 2019, there was noted a rise in the number **of public facilities of separate municipal waste collection** (to 2,188). As of the end of 2019, there was noted an increase in operational **landfill sites** receiving municipal waste (to 278, with the area of approx. 1,670 ha). The number of **illegal dumping sites** also increased (to 1,868).

Chapter 1

Dwelling stocks

Dwelling stocks are defined as both inhabited and uninhabited dwellings located in residential and non-residential buildings. Collective accommodation facilities (i.e. workers' hostels, dormitories, boarding houses, or social welfare houses), except for dwellings located therein, provisional facilities and movable objects (i.e. portable huts, railway cars, barges and ships), are not included in the dwelling stock.

Dwelling is a premise consisting of one or more rooms including auxiliary rooms, built or rebuilt for living in it, separated constructionally (with fixed walls) within a building, with independent entrance from the staircase, common hall, entrance hall or directly from the street, courtyard or garden.

The **room** is defined as a space in a dwelling, separated from other rooms with fixed walls from the floor to the ceiling with direct sun lighting, with area not smaller than 4 m^2. Both living room and the kitchen are regarded a room if they meet the above mentioned criteria.

The **useful floor area of a dwelling** should be understood as the total area of all rooms within the dwelling, especially the area of living room, kitchen (with or without a window), pantry, entrance hall, alcove, bathroom, toilets, encased veranda or porch, dressing room and other rooms, fulfilling the housing and economic needs of the residents, regardless of their purpose and way of usage.

As of 31 December 2019, the country's dwelling stocks amounted to 14.8 million dwellings, with a total useful floor area of 1,101.4 million m^2, with 56.6 million rooms.

Over 10 million dwellings with an area of 648 million m^2 and 35.6 million rooms were located in urban areas. In rural areas, there were over 4.8 million dwellings with an area of 453.4 million m^2 and 21.0 million rooms. In 2019, compared to the previous year, the number of dwellings increased by 197.7 thousand (1.4%), with a total useful floor area of 17,231.1 thousand m^2 (an increase of 1.6%) and 737.3 thousand rooms (an increase of 1.3%). In urban areas, the number of dwellings increased by 144.2 thousand (1.5%), while in rural areas – by 53.5 thousand (1.1%).

The increase in the number of dwellings resulted from, among others, investments in construction, extension and reconstruction of the existing buildings, as well as changes in the purpose of non-residential areas.

Out of the total dwelling stocks, 67.6% of dwellings were located in urban areas. Five largest cities, i.e.: Warszawa, Kraków, Łódź, Wrocław and Poznań (inhabited by about 19.2% of the urban population), concentrated 23.7% of dwellings from the total urban stocks.

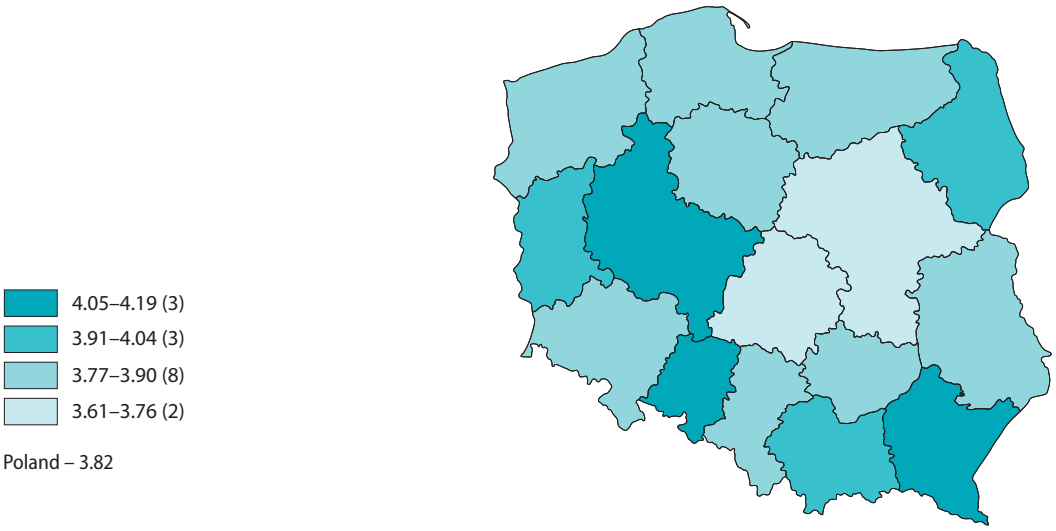
The largest increase in the number of dwellings compared to 2018 was recorded in voivodships: Pomorskie (of 2.0%, which accounts for 8.9% of the increase in dwelling stocks of the whole country), Dolnośląskie (of 1.8%, which represents 10.9% of the increase in dwelling stocks of the whole country), Małopolskie (of 1.8%, which constitutes 10.7% of the increase in dwelling stocks of the whole country) and Mazowieckie (of 1.8%, which is about 21.0% of the increase in the dwelling stocks of the whole country). The smallest increase in the number of dwellings was recorded in Opolskie and Śląskie voivodships (of 0.7% each).

In 2019, housing conditions in Poland further improved compared to previous years.

The average number of rooms per dwelling was 3.82, with 3.56 in urban areas and 4.37 in rural areas. The lowest values of this indicator occurred in central voivodships: Mazowieckie – 3.62 and Łódzkie – 3.61, while the highest values in voivodships: Wielkopolskie – 4.05, Podkarpackie – 4.11 and Opolskie – 4.19.

In urban areas, dwellings with the highest average number of rooms were located in Podkarpackie (3.84) and Podlaskie (3.82), while the lowest in voivodships: Łódzkie (3.35) and Mazowieckie (3.38). On average, the largest number of rooms had rural dwellings in voivodships: Opolskie (4.88) and Śląskie (4.73) and the smallest in Lubelskie (4.00) and Świętokrzyskie (4.06).

Map 1. The average number of rooms in 1 dwelling in 2019

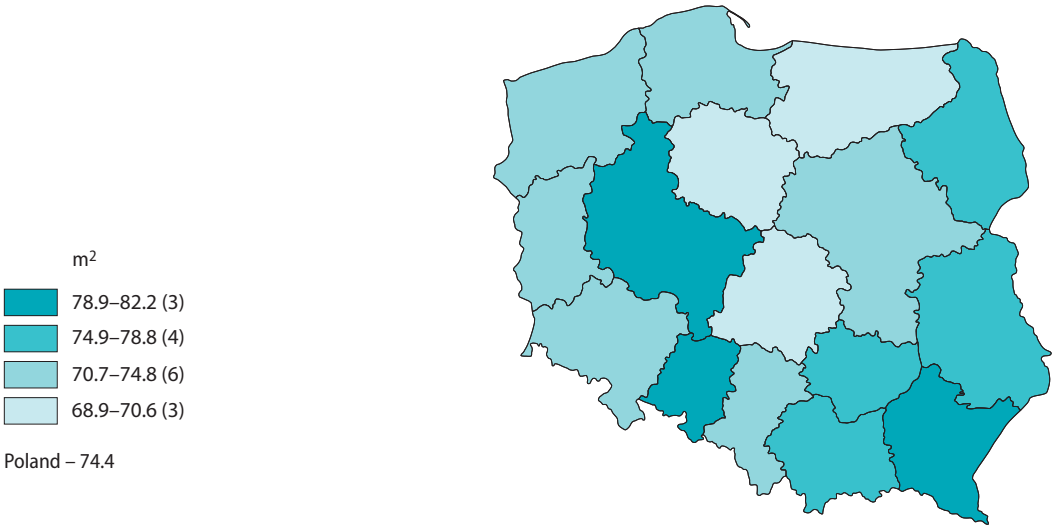


As of 31 December 2019, the average dwelling size in Poland amounted to 74.4 m^2 and increased by 0.2 m^2 compared to the previous year. On average, dwellings in rural areas were by 29.7 m^2 larger than in urban areas (indicator for rural areas was 94.4 m^2 while for urban areas – 64.7 m^2).

The most significant differences in the dwelling size between urban and rural areas were observed in Śląskie Voivodship, where dwellings in urban areas were on average by 35.7 m^2 smaller than in rural areas, or in Małopolskie Voivodship, where the difference amounted to 35.1 m^2. The least significant differences occurred in Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodship, i.e. 20.9 m^2.

The largest average dwellings were located in the following voivodships: Podkarpackie (82.2 m^2), Wielkopolskie (81.6 m^2) and Opolskie (81.2 m^2), while the smallest in: Warmińsko-Mazurskie (68.9 m^2), Łódzkie (69.7 m^2) and Kujawsko-Pomorskie (70.6 m^2).

Map 2. The average useful floor area of 1 dwelling in 2019

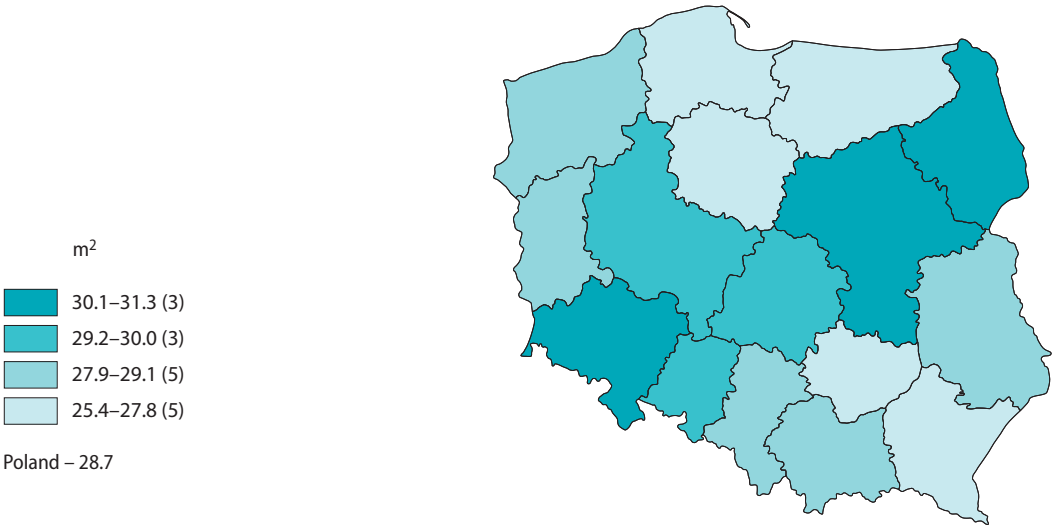


In 2019, the average useful floor area per person increased by 0.5 m² compared to the previous year, and amounted to 28.7 m² (in urban areas it increased from 27.7 m² to 28.1 m² while in rural areas from 29.1 m² to 29.5 m²). In a regional breakdown, this indicator ranged from 25.4 m² in Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodship to 31.3 m² in Mazowieckie Voivodship.

Among urban dwellings, on average, the largest useful floor area per person was in the following voivodships: Mazowieckie (30.9 m²), Dolnośląskie (29.7 m²) and Wielkopolskie (29.1 m²), while the smallest in Warmińsko-Mazurskie (24.8 m²) and Kujawsko-Pomorskie (25.3 m²).

As for rural areas, the largest average useful floor area per person was in voivodships: Podlaskie – 34.5 m², Mazowieckie – 32.1 m² and Opolskie – 32.0 m² and the smallest in Podkarpackie Voivodship – 26.1 m².

Map 3. The average useful floor area per 1 person in 2019

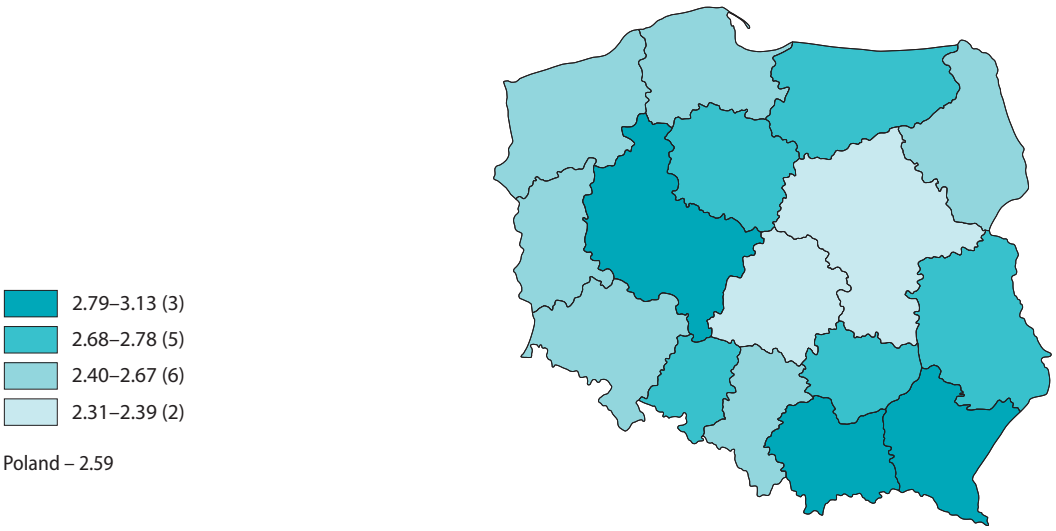


The disproportions between urban and rural areas were also related to the degree of population of dwellings. Rural dwellings were more densely populated than urban dwellings. In urban areas, the average number of persons per dwelling amounted to 2.30, while in rural areas – to 3.20, with an average of 2.59 for Poland.

The highest number of persons per dwelling recorded the following voivodships: Podkarpackie – 3.13, Wielkopolskie – 2.80 and Małopolskie – 2.79, while the lowest in central voivodships: Mazowieckie – 2.31 and Łódzkie – 2.38.

In urban areas, the most densely populated were dwellings in Podkarpackie Voivodship – 2.67, while the least in voivodships: Mazowieckie – 2.06 and Łódzkie – 2.13 person per dwelling. In rural areas, this rate ranged from 2.76 in Podlaskie and 2.94 in Łódzkie voivodships to 3.55 in Małopolskie and 3.58 in Podkarpackie voivodships.

Map 4. The average number of persons per 1 dwelling in 2019

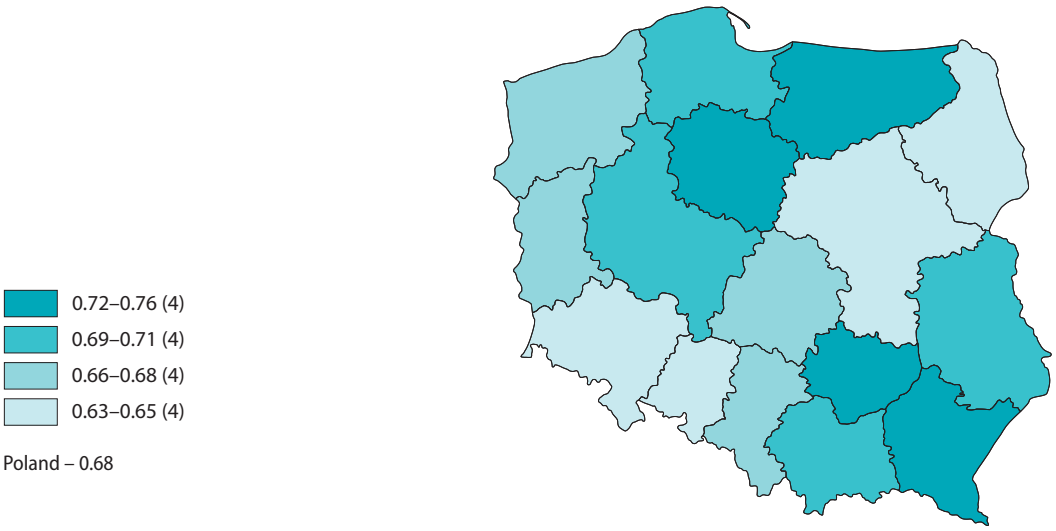


Another indicator presenting the population density of dwellings is the average number of persons per one room. For Poland, the rate amounted to 0.68 person per room, with a higher number of 0.73 persons per one room in rural areas and 0.65 – in urban areas.

The lowest values were observed in the following voivodships: Dolnośląskie – 0.63, Mazowieckie and Podlaskie – 0.64 each, and Opolskie – 0.65, while the highest in Podkarpackie – 0.76, as well as Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Warmińsko-Mazurskie and Świętokrzyskie voivodships – 0.72 each.

The largest number of persons per room, both in urban and rural areas, was recorded in Podkarpackie Voivodship – 0.70 and 0.82 respectively. The lowest number of persons per room occurred in urban areas in Mazowieckie and Dolnośląskie voivodships – 0.61 on average, and in rural areas in voivodships: Podlaskie – 0.63 and Opolskie – 0.64.

Map 5. The average number of persons per 1 room in 2019



The term **dwellings equipped with sanitary and technical installations** covers dwellings with at least one of the following sanitary and technical devices: a water supply system, a flushable toilet, a bathroom, central heating or gas from a gas supply system.

The description of the state of dwelling stocks also involves the degree to which dwellings are equipped with basic sanitary and technical installations. The growing percentage of dwellings equipped with sanitary and technical installations indicates an improvement in the housing conditions of the population.

96.9% of dwellings were fitted with a water supply system, 93.9% with a lavatory, while 91.7% with a bathroom. The gas installation was connected in every other dwelling. However, disparities between urban and rural areas regarding equipping dwellings with basic installations still existed. In urban areas, 99.1% of dwellings were fitted with a water supply system, 97.3% with a lavatory, while 95.7% with a bathroom. In rural areas, 92.4% of dwellings were connected to the water supply system, 86.8% had a lavatory, while 83.3% – a bathroom.

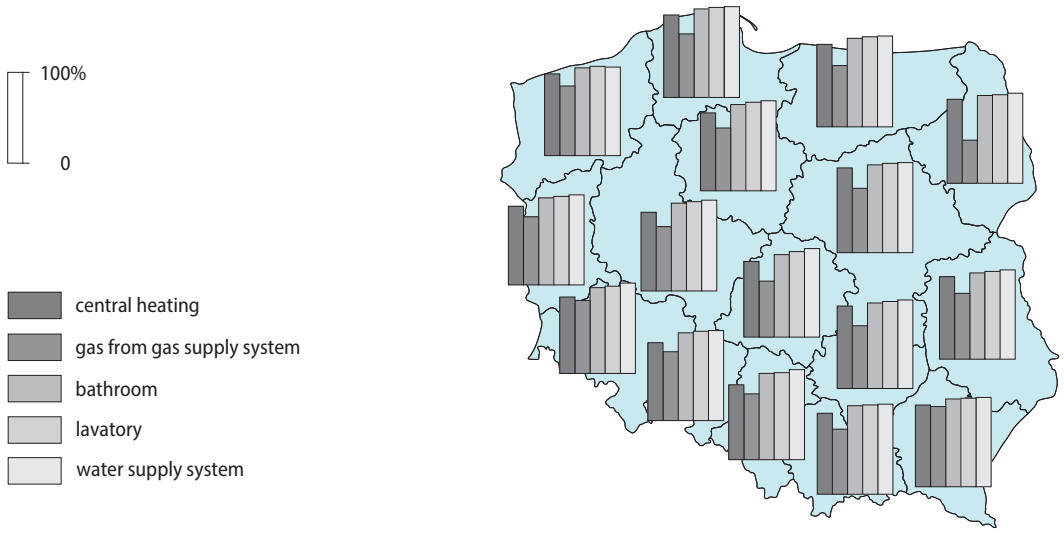
Compared to 2018, the highest increase (of 2.3%) was observed in dwellings equipped with gas from gas supply system. For dwellings located in rural areas, the increase amounted to 6.4%, while in urban areas – 1.6%.

The number of dwellings fitted with central heating increased by 1,7% compared to 2018. In rural areas, similar to the urban areas, an increase of 1.7% was recorded.

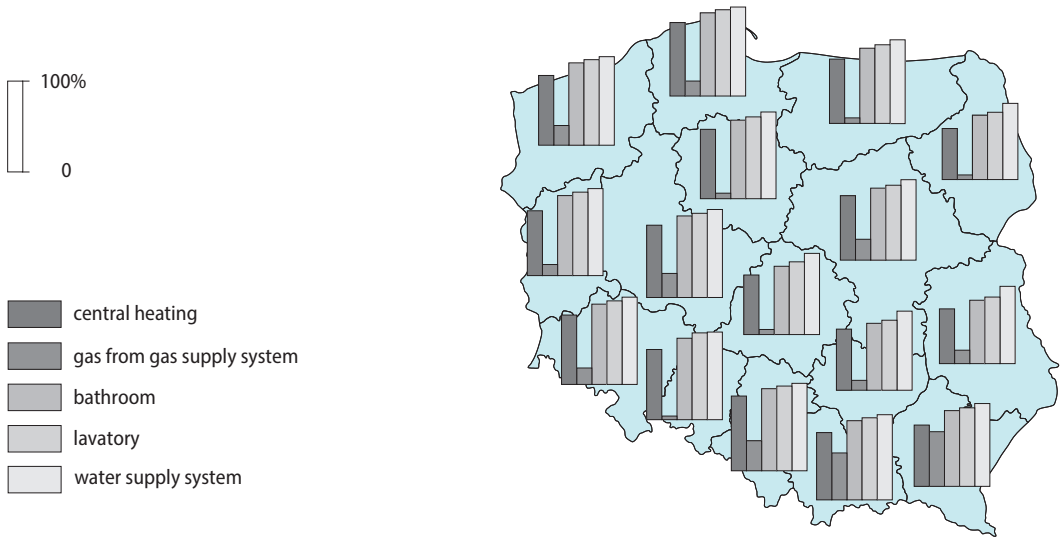
Table 1. Dwellings equipped with basic installations – as of 31.12.2019

Specification	Dwellings in total	Of which fitted with:				
		water supply sytem	lavatory	bathroom	gas from gas supply system	central heating
POLAND – number of dwellings in thousands	**14,812.8**	**14,357.9**	**13,912.4**	**13,577.6**	**8,297.3**	**12,271.1**
% of total dwellings	100.0	96.9	93.9	91.7	56.0	82.8
Urban areas – number of dwellings in thousands	10,009.0	9,917.9	9,743.6	9,576.2	7,159.1	8,795.7
% of total dwellings	100.0	99.1	97.3	95.7	71.5	87.9
Rural areas – number of dwellings in thousands	4,803.8	4,440.0	4,168.8	4,001.4	1,138.2	3,475.4
% of total dwellings	100.0	92.4	86.8	83.3	23.7	72.3

Map 6. Structure of dwellings fitted with sanitary and technical systems in urban areas in 2019



Map 7. Structure of dwellings fitted with sanitary and technical systems in rural areas in 2019



Chapter 2

Gminas' (municipal) dwelling stocks and temporary premises stocks

2.1. Rental of residential premises and temporary premises

The dwelling stocks of gmina are understood as premises used to satisfy the housing needs, comprising the property of gmina or its sole proprietorships, to which gmina has entrusted the execution of own task in the scope of satisfying the housing needs of the self-government community, with the exception of public building societites, as well as premises remaining in the self-owned possession of these entities.

The social premises rental contract is a contract for the rent of premises suitable for settlement with regard to equipment and technical conditions, whose room area per household member cannot be smaller than 5 m^2, and in the case of a single-person household – 10 m^2, with a possible lower standard of the dwelling.

The social premises rental contract is concluded for a fixed period. The rent price in the case of the rental of social premises cannot exceed half of the lowest rent price applicable in the gmina's dwelling stocks.

Temporary premises are understood as premises suitable for settlement, having access to a water supply system and a lavatory, even if the equipment is located outside the building, natural and electric lighting, a heating system, non-humidified building partitions and the possibility of installing cooking appliances, as well as providing at least 5 m^2 of room surface per person and, if possible, located in the same or a nearby area where the rehoused persons have lived so far.

As of the end of 2019, the number of residential premises with rental contracts (excluding replacement and temporary premises) amounted to 641,801, and their area to 28,577.6 thousand m^2. The average area of the rented premises from the gminas' dwelling stocks was 44.5 m^2.

In 2019, the largest number of residential premises (excluding replacement and temporary premises) with rental contracts was located in the following voivodships: Śląskie (116,011 with an area of 5,278.4 thousand m^2), Mazowieckie (90,844 with an area of 4,044.0 thousand m^2) and Dolnośląskie (79,654 with an area of 3,652.9 thousand m^2). The smallest number of residential premises with rental contracts was recorded in the following voivodships: Świętokrzyskie (8,785 with an area of 341.1 thousand m^2), Podlaskie (11,521 with an area of 531.9 thousand m^2) and Podkarpackie (11,933, with an area of 511.8 thousand m^2).

On average, the largest rented premises from the gminas' dwelling stocks were recorded in voivodships: Opolskie – 49.2 m^2, Wielkopolskie – 47.7 m^2, Podlaskie – 46.2 m^2 and Lubuskie – 46.1 m^2, while the smallest in voivodships: Świętokrzyskie – 38.8 m^2 and Kujawsko-Pomorskie – 39.9 m^2.

As of the end of 2019, out of the total number of residential premises from the gminas' dwelling stocks with rental contracts, 73,970 were covered by social premises rental contracts[1]. Their useful floor area amounted to 2,520.6 thousand m^2. In urban areas, 65,302 of dwellings were covered by social premises rental contracts, with a total surface area of 2,216.2 thousand m^2, while in rural areas – 8,668 dwellings with an area of 304.3 thousand m^2. In Poland, the average useful floor area of a dwelling covered by the social premises rental contract was 34.1 m^2, in urban areas – 33.9 m^2 and in rural areas – 35.1 m^2.

The largest number of dwellings with social premises rental contract was located in Śląskie (10,950 with an area of 374.5 thousand m^2), Mazowieckie (10,334 with an area of 321.7 thousand m^2) and Dolnośląskie (6,834 with an area of 228.4 thousand m^2) voivodships. Voivodships with the smallest number of dwellings covered by the social premises rental contract were: Podkarpackie – 1,521, Podlaskie – 1,922 and Lubelskie – 1,950.

As of the end of 2019, gminas had concluded rental contracts for 1,600 temporary premises, whose total surface area amounted to 34.7 thousand m^2. The highest number of temporary premises rental contracts were signed in voivodships: Mazowieckie (370), Zachodniopomorskie (180) and Wielkopolskie (165), with the respective useful floor area of 8.0 thousand m^2, 3.5 thousand m^2 and 4.3 thousand m^2. The lowest number of such contracts was concluded in voivodships: Świętokrzyskie – 13, Podkarpackie – 14, as well as Lubelskie and Podlaskie – 17 each.

Table 2. Rental of residential premises from gminas' dwelling stocks and rental of temporary premises – as of 31.12.2019

Specification	Poland	Urban areas	Rural areas
Rental contracts (existing)			
Residential premises[a]	641,801	588,601	53,200
of which social rental contracts[b]	73,970	65,302	8,668
Temporary premises	1,600	1,477	123
Useful floor area in thousand m^2			
Residential premises	28,577.6	26,111.2	2,466.4
of which social rental contracts[b]	2,520.6	2,216.2	304.3
Temporary premises	34.7	31.6	3.0
The average useful floor area in m^2			
Residential premise	44.5	44.4	46.4
of which social rental contracts[b]	34.1	33.9	35.1
Temporary premises	21.7	21.4	24.8

a Excluding replacement premises and temporary premises.

b Concerns contracts for social premises and social premises rental contracts concluded both prior and following the entry into force of the act of 22 March 2018 on amendment of the act of financial support for creation of social premises, sheltered housing, night shelters and shelters for homeless people, the act on protection of rights of occupants, municipal dwelling stock, and amendment of the Civil Code, and amendment of certain other acts.

1 Concerns contracts for social premises and social premises rental contracts concluded both prior and following the entry into force of the act of 22 March 2018 on amendment of the act of financial support for creation of social premises, sheltered housing, night shelters and shelters for homeless people, the act on protection of rights of occupants, municipal dwelling stock, and amendment of the Civil Code, and amendment of certain other acts.

2.2. Demand for residential premises and temporary premises rental

Households awaiting the rental of premises from a gmina are understood as the households that meet the requirements of the gmina council resolution determining the rules for renting premises that are part of the gmina's dwelling stocks.

In 2019, 150,579 households awaited rental of premises from the gminas' dwelling stocks (excluding replacement and temporary premises). The demand for the rental of premises included in the gminas dwelling stocks increased by 0.8% compared to 2018. The majority of the waiting households, i.e. 130,066, were recorded in urban areas, while 20,513 were in rural areas. In urban areas, the largest number of households awaited rental in voivodships: Śląskie – 32,143, Dolnośląskie – 13,556, and Mazowieckie – 12,216. In rural areas, the majority of households waited for rental in voivodships: Dolnośląskie – 2,790, Pomorskie – 2,535 and Wielkopolskie – 2,204.

Out of the total of 81,214 households awaiting rental from the gminas' dwelling stocks (which accounted for 53.9% of all households waiting for rental of premises), 47,644 households awaited rental under the execution of eviction sentences. 17,891 households were awaiting rental from the gminas' temporary premises stocks.

In 2019, the highest number of households waited for social rental from the gminas' dwelling stocks in voivodships: Śląskie – 16,628, Dolnośląskie – 8,908 and Pomorskie – 8,613. The number of households awaiting social rental of premises was the lowest in voivodships: Podlaskie – 902, Podkarpackie – 1,365 and Małopolskie – 1,749.

In the same period, 74,110 households awaited social rental in urban areas, while 7,104 in rural areas. The largest number of awaiting households was observed in urban areas of voivodships: Śląskie – 16,312, Dolnośląskie – 8,115 and Łódzkie – 7,816, while the smallest in Podlaskie Voivodship – 859. In rural areas, the highest demand among households was recorded in voivodships: Mazowieckie – 877, Pomorskie – 837 and Dolnośląskie – 793, while the lowest in Podlaskie Voivodship – 43.

Table 3. Households waiting for residential premises rental from gminas' dwelling stocks and for temporary premises rental – as of 31.12.2019

Specification	Grand total	Social rental[a]		Rental of temporary premises
		total	of which execution of eviction sentences	
		In absolute numbers		
POLAND	**150,579**	**81,214**	**47,644**	**17,891**
Urban areas	130,066	74,110	46,605	17,772
Rural areas	20,513	7,104	1,039	119
		Poland=100%		
Urban areas	86.4	91.3	97.8	99.3
Rural areas	13.6	8.7	2.2	0.7

a Concerns contracts for social premises and social premises rental contracts concluded both prior and following the entry into force of the act of 22 March 2018 on amendment of the act of financial support for creation of social premises, sheltered housing, night shelters and shelters for homeless people, the act on protection of rights of occupants, municipal dwelling stock, and amendment of the Civil Code, and amendment of certain other acts.

2.3. Housing allowances

Housing allowance is a common and periodical financial benefit resulting from regulations of the Act of 21 June 2001 on residential benefits, intended to provide financial support for expenses related to occupation of residential premises or single-family houses.

Characteristics: it is an obligatory provision granted upon the request of entitled person meaning that people meeting statutory conditions have the right to demand its payment and it is common (it will be granted regardless of the legal title to the premises that appertains the entitled person apart from exceptions stipulated by law), as well as periodical – because it is granted for a defined period with a possibility to be granted again in the case of further meeting the statutory conditions.

In 2019, 2.9 million housing allowances were paid. Compared to the previous year, there was a decline in their number (of 11.0%). The total amount of payments reached PLN 595.8 million, which was about 10.4% lower compared to 2018.

Similarly to the previous year, the majority of the housing allowances were paid to the users of gminas' premises, i.e. 40.6% of the total number of allowances paid, and 41.5% of their value, as well as of premises of housing cooperatives, i.e. 26.2% of the number and 23.2% of the value of allowances. The lowest number of allowances was obtained by the users of dwellings of social building societies, i.e. 2.1% of the number and 2.5% of the value of allowances, as well as of other entities, i.e. 6.0% of the number and 6.4% of the value of allowances paid.

Similarly to the previous year, the highest share in both the number and value of allowances paid in 2019 had voivodships: Śląskie (17.8% of the number and 18.5% of the value of allowances paid), Mazowieckie (10.4% and 10.1%), Wielkopolskie (9.1% and 10.2%) and Kujawsko-Pomorskie (8.3% and 9.1%), while the lowest share was in voivodships: Świętokrzyskie (1.7% and 1.4%), Opolskie (2.0% and 1.9%) and Lubuskie (2.8% and 2.9%).

Map 8. The average amount of housing allowance paid out in 2019

In 2019, the average amount of the housing allowance was PLN 1.5 higher compared to 2018, amounting to PLN 206.9 with the average amount of PLN 208.0 in urban areas and PLN 195.1 in rural areas. The highest average amount of allowance was paid to the users of the premises remaining in private stocks – PLN 259.9, and the lowest to the users of housing cooperatives premises – PLN 183.0, as well as the users of premises owned by natural persons in buildings covered by housing condominiums – PLN 184.1.

The highest average amount of housing allowances paid was recorded in voivodships: Wielkopolskie – PLN 231.4, Kujawsko-Pomorskie – PLN 227.3 and Małopolskie – PLN 217.2, while the lowest in voivodships: Świętokrzyskie – PLN 168.1 and Lubelskie – PLN 174.7.

Chapter 3

Management of land for housing construction

The term **common land** is understood as land that is owned by municipalities and intermunicipality associations whose owners are not known and are in autonomous possession of municipality organizational units that do not have legal personality and land owned by municipalities and intermunicipality associations under the perpetual usufruct.

Improved lands should be understood as a building plot foreseen for residential building purposes which ensure connection of utility infrastructure of the land or building to water supply system, a sewage system or an electricity and heating system.

In 2019, gminas handed over 776.6 ha of land to investors for housing construction, 84.8% of which was used for single-family housing. Out of the total area of land provided for housing construction, 58.4% was located in urban areas.

Table 4. The share of lands handed over for housing construction by voivodships in 2019

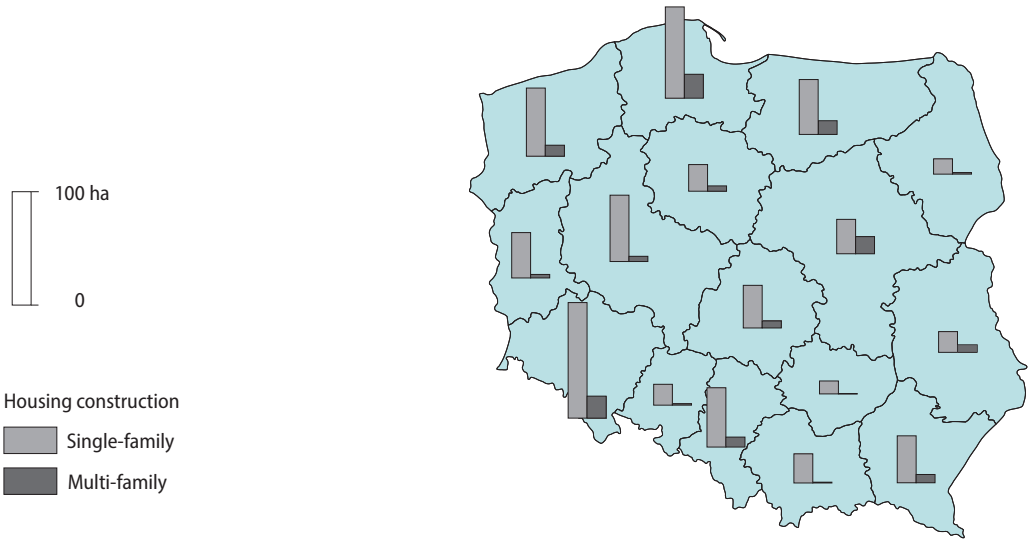
Specification	Lands handed over for housing construction in %		
	total	single-family	multi-family
POLAND	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**
Dolnośląskie	15.6	15.5	16.4
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	3.6	3.6	4.0
Lubelskie	3.1	2.8	5.1
Lubuskie	5.5	6.1	2.6
Łódzkie	5.6	5.7	5.2
Małopolskie	3.4	3.9	0.6
Mazowieckie	5.0	4.1	10.0
Opolskie	2.5	2.8	1.1
Podkarpackie	6.3	6.3	6.2
Podlaskie	1.9	2.1	1.2
Pomorskie	13.1	12.2	17.8
Śląskie	7.9	7.9	7.4
Świętokrzyskie	1.5	1.7	0.2
Warmińsko-Mazurskie	7.8	7.4	10.2
Wielkopolskie	8.1	8.9	3.9
Zachodniopomorskie	9.0	9.1	8.2

In the total area of land handed over in 2019, the largest shares for housing construction were held by the following voivodships: Dolnośląskie (15.6%), Pomorskie (13.1%), Zachodniopomorskie (9.0%) and Wielkopolskie (8.1%), while the smallest – Świętokrzyskie (1.5%), Podlaskie (1.9%), Opolskie (2.5%) and Lubelskie (3.1%).

With regard to the land in gminas' stocks intended for housing construction, most of the land was allocated for this purpose in the following voivodships: Wielkopolskie (4.6%), Kujawsko-Pomorskie (4.4%), Warmińsko-Mazurskie (4.3%) and Świętokrzyskie (3.9%), while the least in Małopolskie (0.7%), Śląskie (1.8%), as well as Łódzkie, Opolskie and Podlaskie (2.2% each).

In the total area of land (28,088.3 ha) in the gminas' stocks intended for housing construction, – family housing constituted 78.5%, 65.0% of which was located in urban areas, while 96.9% – in rural areas.

Map 9. Lands handed over to investors for housing construction purposes in 2019



The following voivodships had the highest share in the total area of land handed over for single-family housing: Dolnośląskie (15.5%), Pomorskie (12.2%), Zachodniopomorskie (9.1%) and Wielkopolskie (8.9%). In voivodships: Pomorskie (17.8%), Dolnośląskie (16.4%), Warmińsko-Mazurskie (10.2%) and Mazowieckie (10.0%), the largest amount of land was provided for multi-family housing.

Table 5. The share of lands handed over for housing construction by type of ownership by voivodships in 2019

Specification	Lands handed over for housing construction in %	of which for housing construction				
		housing cooperatives	gminas	public building societies	natural persons	companies and other
POLAND	**100.0**	**0.7**	**3.0**	**1.1**	**78.8**	**16.5**
Dolnośląskie	100.0	0.0	3.7	0.2	86.8	9.2
Kujawsko-Pomorskie	100.0	2.1	1.4	0.7	86.9	8.9
Lubelskie	100.0	0.8	4.5	2.5	70.8	21.4
Lubuskie	100.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	81.7	17.4
Łódzkie	100.0	0.2	1.1	2.3	84.0	12.3
Małopolskie	100.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	87.1	6.8
Mazowieckie	100.0	0.0	1.6	0.8	67.0	30.6
Opolskie	100.0	0.5	1.0	0.0	89.3	9.1
Podkarpackie	100.0	0.4	0.8	4.1	81.9	12.7
Podlaskie	100.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	88.6	8.7
Pomorskie	100.0	3.7	0.7	0.4	62.1	33.1
Śląskie	100.0	0.2	2.0	3.3	79.1	15.5
Świętokrzyskie	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	94.8	5.2
Warmińsko-Mazurskie	100.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	76.7	19.7
Wielkopolskie	100.0	0.0	13.3	1.3	74.5	10.9
Zachodniopomorskie	100.0	0.0	1.0	0.9	82.7	15.5

The smallest amount of lands handed over to investors for housing construction was allocated for cooperative construction (0.7%), public building societies (1.1%) and municipal construction (3.0%), and the largest (78.8%) for private construction (natural persons).

Chapter 4

Water supply system and sewage system management

4.1. Water supply system and sewage system

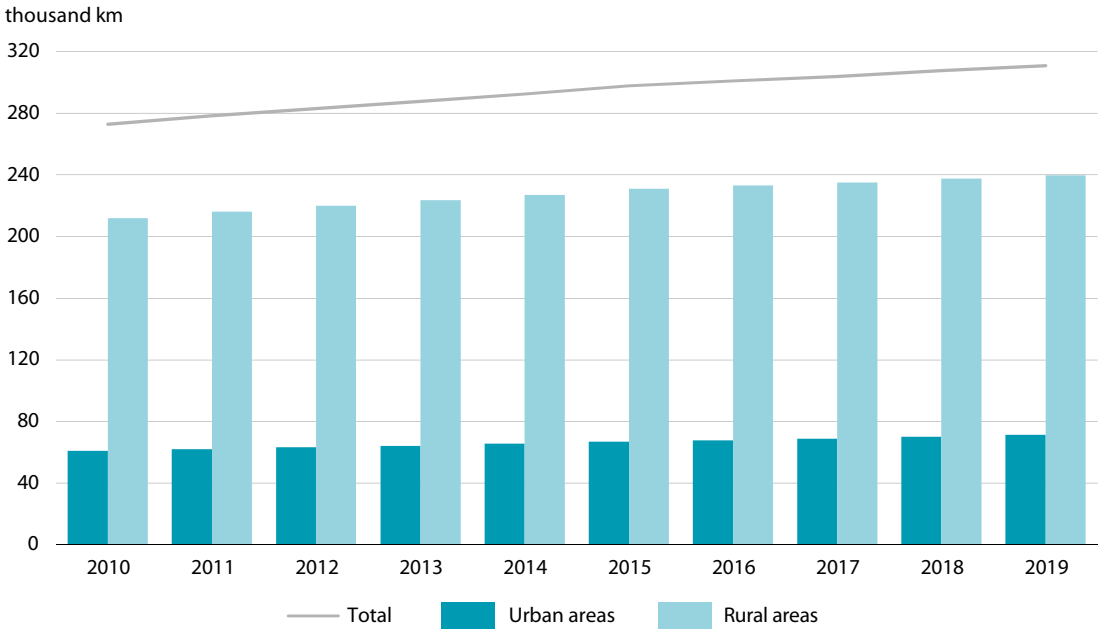
Water supply distribution network – street conduits used for distribution of water to consumers by the connections to buildings and other objects.

Water supply connection – a segment of a conduit connecting water supply network with internal water supply installation in a property of consumer together with a valve past the main water-meter.

Similarly to the previous years, in 2019, further investments in the area of sanitary and technical infrastructure were recorded. Compared to 2010, the length of the water supply network increased by 13.9%, i.e. from 272.9 thousand km in 2010 to 310.9 thousand km in 2019, with the increase in rural areas from 211.9 thousand km to 239.6 thousand km, i.e. by 13.1%. The number of connections increased by 843.8 thousand pieces, i.e. by 17.1%, including 548.8 thousand in rural areas, i.e. by 18.1%.

The most significant increase in the length of the water supply network was observed in urban areas of the following voivodships: Podkarpackie – of 26.5%, Wielkopolskie – of 25.6% and Mazowieckie – of 24.8%, as well as in rural areas of the following voivodships: Pomorskie – of 40.8%, Wielkopolskie – of 26.9%, and Dolnośląskie – of 24.1%.

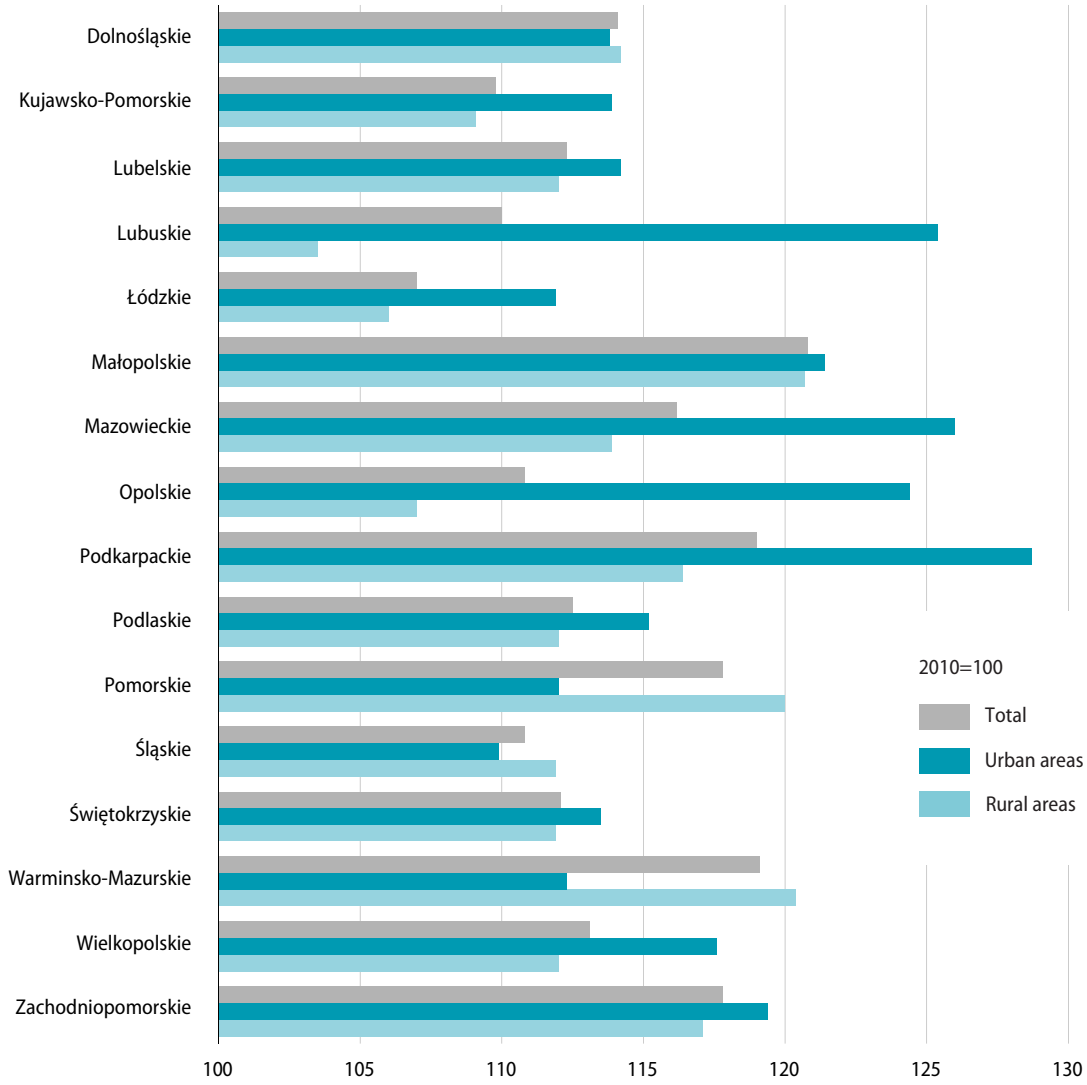
Chart 1. The length of active distribution water supply network



In 2019, the length of the water supply network in Poland amounted to nearly 311 thousand km, while the number of connections – to almost 5.8 million. Compared to 2018, the length of the constructed or reconstructed water supply network increased by 3.2 thousand km, while the number of connections to buildings rose by 108.7 thousand pcs.

Over 77% of the length of the water supply network and approx. 62% of connections to buildings were located in rural areas. Compared to the previous year, the length of the water supply network in urban areas increased by more than 1.1 thousand km while the number of connections rose by 37.7 thousand pcs. In rural areas, the new network increased by more than 2.1 thousand km while the number of connections rose by 71.0 thousand pcs.

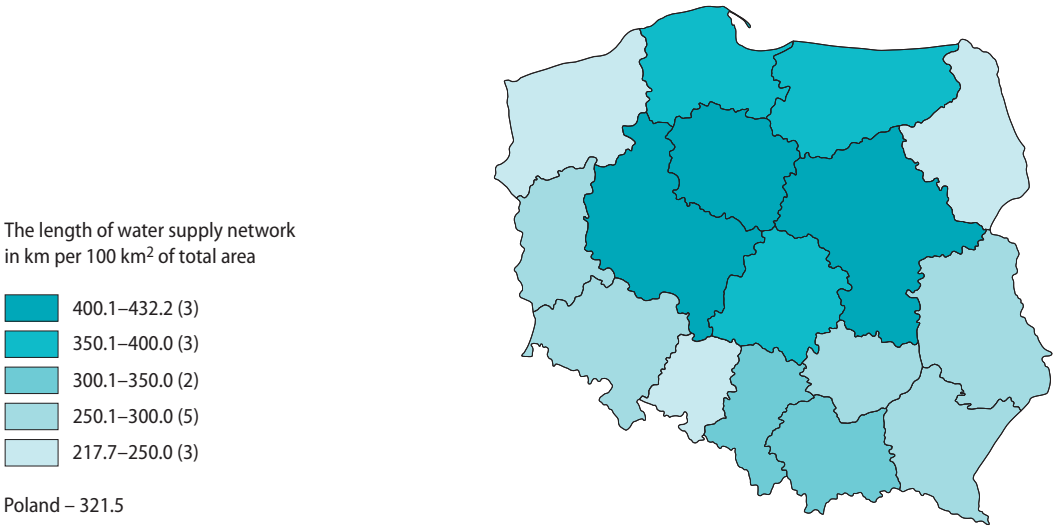
Chart 2. Change in the length of water supply network in the years 2010–2019



The highest values of the indicator of the water supply network density were observed in Śląskie Voivodship – 177.8 km per 100 km^2 (an increase of 2.1 km per 100 km^2 compared to 2018) and Małopolskie Voivodship – 140.2 km per 100 km^2 (an increase of 2.8 km per 100 km^2) while the lowest in Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship – 49.7 km per 100 km^2 (an increase of 0.2 km per 100 km^2).

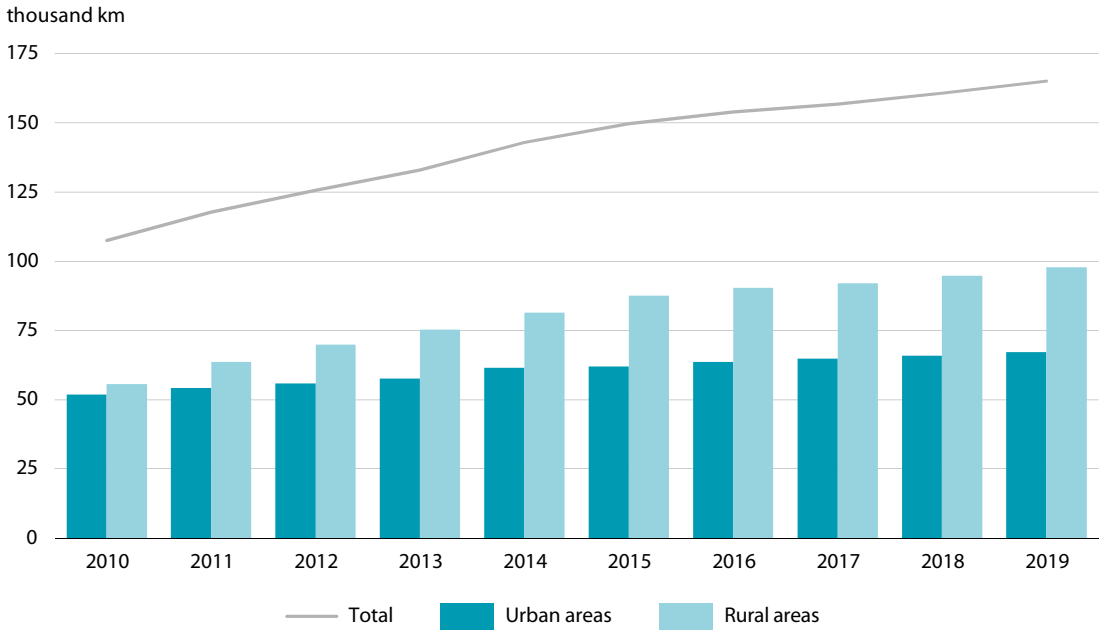
The density of water supply network per 100 km^2 – the indicator is a quotient obtained by dividing of the length of water supply network by the area of surveyed surface, multiplied by 100.

Map 10. The density of water supply network in urban areas in 2019



In the years 2010–2019, the length of the sewage network increased by 57.6 thousand km (53.6%), reaching 165.1 thousand km in 2019. In rural areas, the increase in the length of network was higher by 42.3 thousand km (76.2%) than in urban areas, where the rise amounted to 15.2 thousand km (29.3%).

Chart 3. The length of active sewage network

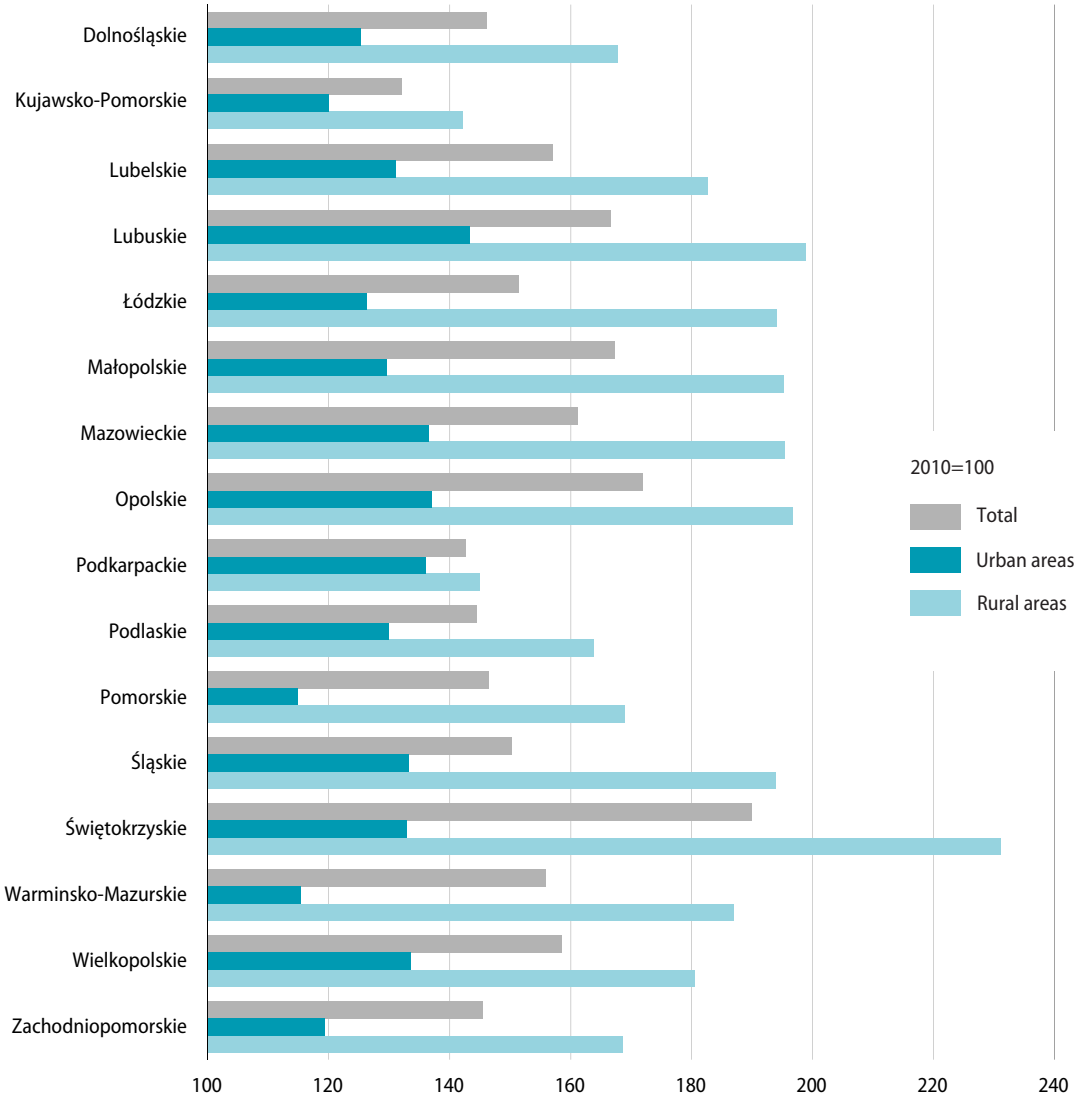


Active sewage network – a system of covered (underground) conduits discharging sewage from buildings and other objects to collectors or sewage treatment facilities.

Sewage connection – a segment of conduit connecting internal sewage installations on a property of consumer with the sewage network, past a first inspection chamber from a building, and in case of its lack – from a boundary of the property.

As for the individual voivodships, the most significant increase in the length of the sewage network in rural areas was recorded in the following voivodships: Świętokrzyskie – of 131.1%, Lubuskie – of 98.8%, Opolskie – of 96.7% and Mazowieckie – of 95.4%. In urban areas, the highest increase in the length of the sewage network was observed in voivodships: Lubuskie – of 43.2%, Opolskie – of 37.0% and Mazowieckie – of 36.5%.

Chart 4. Change in the length of sewage network in the years 2010–2019



In 2019, the length of the sewage network in Poland reached 165.1 thousand km, with the number of building connections amounting to almost 3.5 million pcs. Compared to 2018, the length of the constructed or reconstructed sewage system increased by 4.4 thousand km, i.e. by 2.8%, with a simultaneous rise in the number of connections by more than 104 thousand pcs, i.e. of 3.1%.

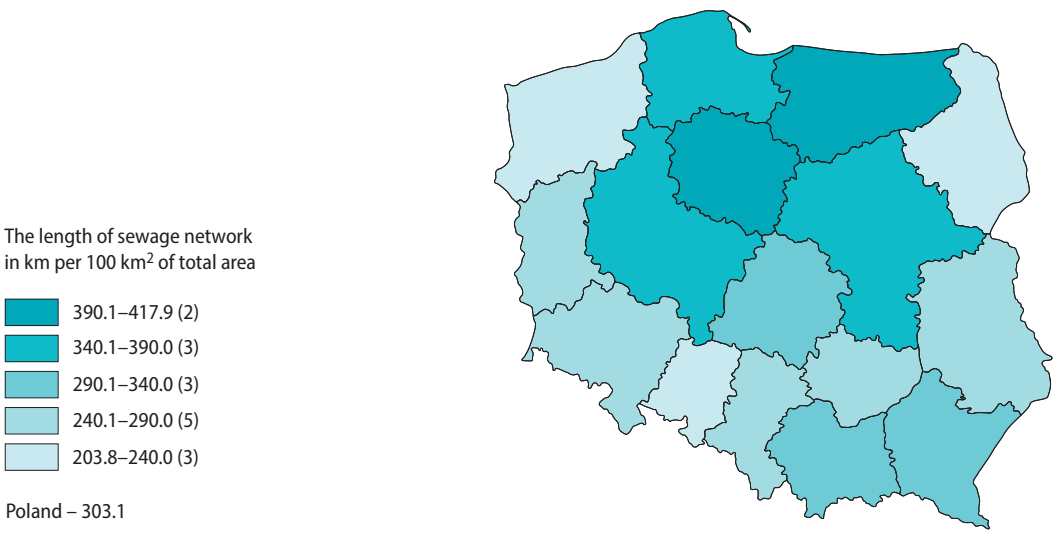
59.3% of the sewage network and 45.9% of the number of connections were located in rural areas. Compared to 2018, the length of the network in rural areas increased by 3.1 thousand km (3.3%) while the number of connections rose by 64.3 thousand pcs. (4.2%). In the same period, more than 1.3 thousand km of the network (an increase of 2.0%) and almost 40 thousand pcs. of connections (increase by 2.2%) were installed in urban areas.

Compared to 2018, the most significant increase in the total length of the sewage network was recorded in the following voivodships: Pomorskie – of 4.2% (in urban areas – 1.0%) Lubelskie – of 4.1% (in urban areas – 2.3%), Podkarpackie – of 3.5% (in urban areas – 5.2%) and Łódzkie – of 3.0% (in urban areas – 1.5%).

In 2019, the highest values of the sewage network density indicator were recorded in Śląskie Voivodship – 139.0 km per 100 km^2 and Małopolskie Voivodship – 110.3 km per 100 km^2, while the lowest in Podlaskie Voivodship – 18.3 km per 100 km^2 and Lubelskie Voivodship – 27.7 km per 100 km^2.

The density of sewage network per 100 km^2 – the indicator is a quotient obtained by dividing of the length of sewage network by the area of surveyed surface, multiplied by 100.

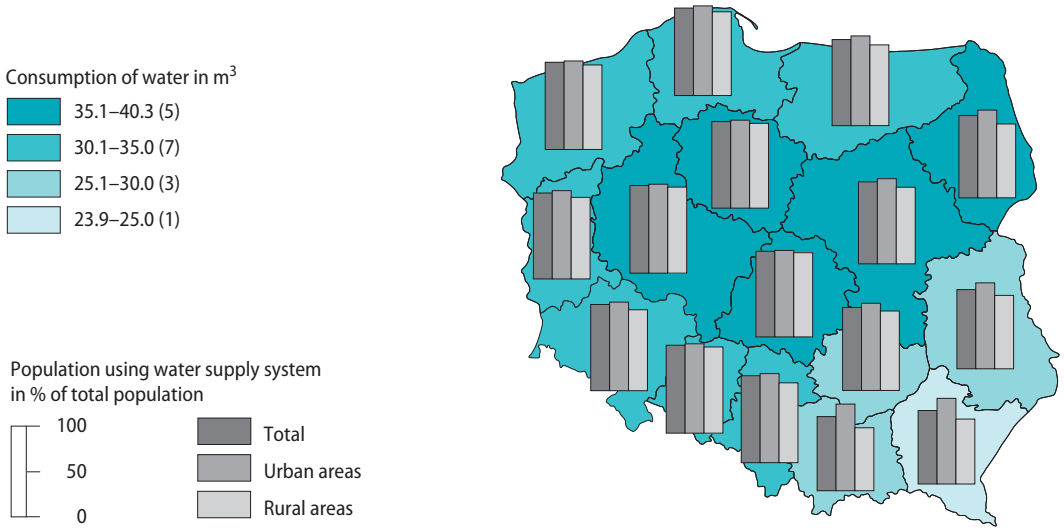
Map 11. The density of sewage network in urban areas in 2019



Development of the water supply and sewage infrastructure has contributed to the increase in the number of persons using the above-mentioned systems. In 2019, the water supply system was used by 92.2% of the total population (an increase of 4.8 percentage point compared to 2010). In urban areas, 96.6% of the total population had access to the water supply system (an increase of 1.3 percentage point compared to 2010). In rural areas, the share of the population using the water supply system amounted to 85.5%.

Data regarding **population using water supply system** include people living in residential buildings and collective accommodation buildings connected to water supply system.

Map 12. Population using water supply system and consumption of water per capita in 2019



With the increasing number of persons with access to the water supply system, the amount of water used per 1 inhabitant between 2010 and 2019 rose by almost 8.4%.

Table 6. Population using water supply system and consumption of water in households per 1 inhabitant

Specification	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Population using water supply system in % of total population	87.4	91.8	91.9	92.0	92.1	92.2
in urban areas	95.3	96.5	96.5	96.6	96.6	96.6
Average water consumption per 1 inhabitant in m³	31.1	32.2	32.2	31.8	33.3	33.7
in urban areas	35.0	34.3	34.2	34.1	35.2	35.3

The average household water consumption in 2019 amounted to 33.7 m³ per capita, with 35.3 m³ in urban areas and 31.2 m³ in rural areas. Compared to 2018, water consumption increased (by 0.4 m³). In urban areas, the consumption increased by 0.1 m³ while in rural areas – by 0.6 m³. The most significant decline in water consumption was recorded in Pomorskie and Zachodniopomorskie voivodships – of 0.4 m³ per 1 inhabitant (in Pomorskie Voivodship the decline amounted to 0.4 m³ in both urban and rural areas, while in Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship – 0.2 m³ in urban areas and 1.0 m³ in rural areas).

The percentage of the population using the sewage system in the years 2010–2019 increased from 62.0% to 71.2% (by 9.2 percentage points). At the end of 2019, in urban areas 90.5% of the population was using the sewage system (an increase of 4.4 percentage points), while in rural areas – 42.2% (an increase of 17.4 percentage points).

Data regarding **population using sewage system** include people living in residential buildings and collective accommodation buildings connected to sewage system.

Table 7. Population using sewage system and the quantity of wastewater discharged from households

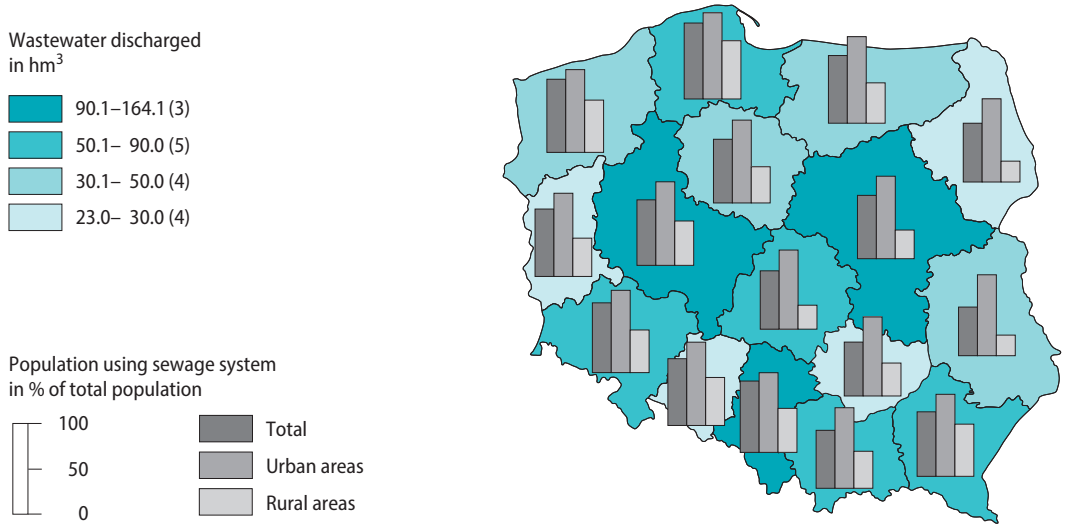
Specification	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Population using sewage system in % of total population	62.0	69.7	70.2	70.5	70.8	71.2
in urban areas	86.1	89.8	90.0	90.2	90.3	90.5
Wastewater discharged from households by sewage system during a year in hm^3	901.6	926.1	938.1	954.4	969.5	979.5

The amount of wastewater discharged from households in 2019 amounted to 979.5 hm^3 (in urban areas – 852.4 hm^3, while in rural areas – 127.1 hm^3) and compared to 2018 increased by 10 hm^3 (6.8 hm^3 and 3.2 hm^3 respectively).

Wastewater discharged – domestic wastewater discharged to the sewage system during a year (excluding rainwater, infiltration water, and sewage transported to dump stations).

Domestic wastewater – sewage from residential buildings, collective accomodation establishments, and public buildings, which originates from the human metabolism or activities of households as well as sewage of similar composition originating from such buildings.

Map 13. Population using sewage system and wastewater discharged from households in 2019



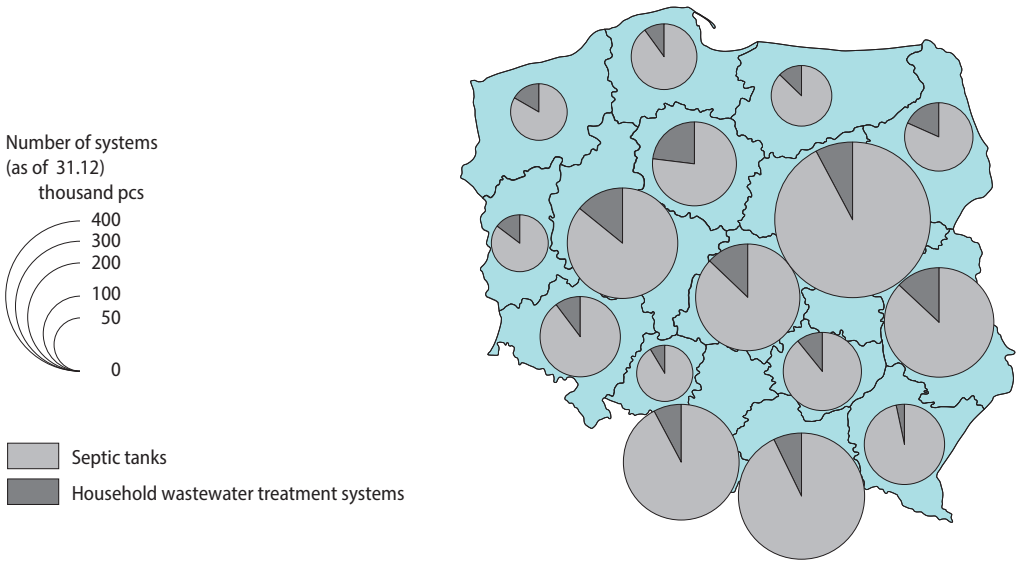
4.2. Liquid waste

Residents of areas with an underdeveloped sewage infrastructure use independent systems for sewage removal, namely septic tanks or household wastewater treatment systems. The systems provide an alternative solution for the construction of a sewage system discharging wastewater to a sewage treatment plants in cases, where connecting of all properties to the sewage system is impossible or generates excessive costs. In Poland, as of the end of 2019, there were 2,425.2 thousand operational on-site systems for discharge of sewage, 88.5% of which were septic tanks.

Septic tank – an installation and device intended for an accumulation of liquid waste where it is generated.

Household wastewater treatment system – a complex of devices intended for treatment of sewage produced in one or more households.

Map 14. On-site systems for discharging of wastewater in 2019



The number of septic tanks decreased from about 2,163 thousand in 2018 to 2,146 thousand in 2019, (by 0.8%), while the number of household wastewater treatment systems increased from about 257 thousand in 2018 to approximately 279 thousand in 2019 (by 8,7%). As of the end of 2019, the majority (nearly 87%) of the household wastewater treatment systems were located in rural areas – over 86% of the total number of septic tanks and over 92% of the total number of household wastewater treatment systems.

Table 8. On-site systems for discharging of wastewater – as of 31.12

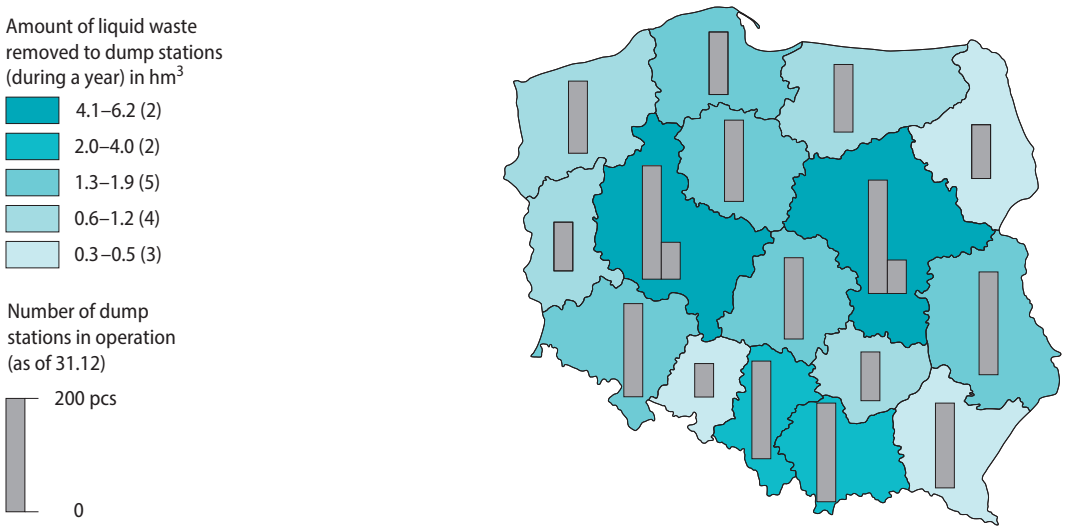
Specification	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
On-site systems for discharging of wastewater in thousand pcs	2,487.4	2,339.0	2,354.9	2,419.5	2,425.2
urban areas	450.2	356.2	334.5	333.5	318.6
rural areas	2,037.2	1,982.8	2,020.5	2,086.0	2,106.6
Septic tanks in thousand pcs	2,406.8	2,136.2	2,121.1	2,162.7	2,146.1
urban areas	441.2	339.0	314.8	311.8	296.4
rural areas	1,965.6	1,797.1	1,806.2	1,850.9	1,849.7
Household wastewater treatment systems in thousand pcs	80.6	202.8	233.8	256.8	279.1
urban areas	9.0	17.2	19.6	21.7	22.2
rural areas	71.6	185.6	214.2	235.1	256.9

Liquid waste – sewage stored temporarily in septic tanks.

Dump station – an installation and device, placed near a sewer or a wastewater treatment plant, intended for a collecting of liquid waste transported by sewage disposal vehicles from where it is accumulated.

Domestic sewage stored temporarily in septic tanks is collected from owners of properties equipped with such tanks by municipal organisational units or entities conducting activities in the scope of emptying septic tanks and transport of liquid waste on the basis of a permit granted pursuant to provisions of the Act of 13 September 1996 on Maintaining Cleanliness and Order in Municipalities, and are afterwards entered into dump stations. In 2019, about 27.2 hm^3 of domestic liquid waste was collected, which corresponds to about 2.3% of the total volume of domestic sewage discharged by sewage system to wastewater treatment plants.

Map 15. Dump stations and liquid waste removed to dump stations in 2019



The total number of dump stations in operation as of the end of 2019 increased by 0.4% compared to the previous year and amounted to 2,349. More than 67% of dump stations were located in rural areas. In 2019, about 70.3% of liquid waste was collected from rural areas, while 29.7% of the total volume of domestic liquid waste originated from urban areas (in the previous year – 71.7% and 28.3%).

Table 9. Domestic liquid waste collected

Specification	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
	in hm^3				
Total	**24.6**	**23.0**	**23.7**	**26.8**	**27.2**
Urban areas	9.6	7.8	7.4	7.6	8.1
Rural areas	15.1	15.1	16.2	19.2	19.1

Chapter 5

Electric energy and gas supply system management

Information on **number of consumers and consumption of electricity** concern households and collective accommodation establishments with complex agreements or distribution service contracts.

Data on consumption of electricity were stated on the basis of advance payments made by consumers.

Total consumption of electricity in households in Poland in 2019 increased slightly compared to the previous year (by 0.4%), reaching the level of approx. 30,613.2 GWh, however in urban areas decreased (by 0.1%) amounting to about 17,934.5 GWh, and in rural areas increased (by 1.0%), amounting to approx. 12,678.7 GWh.

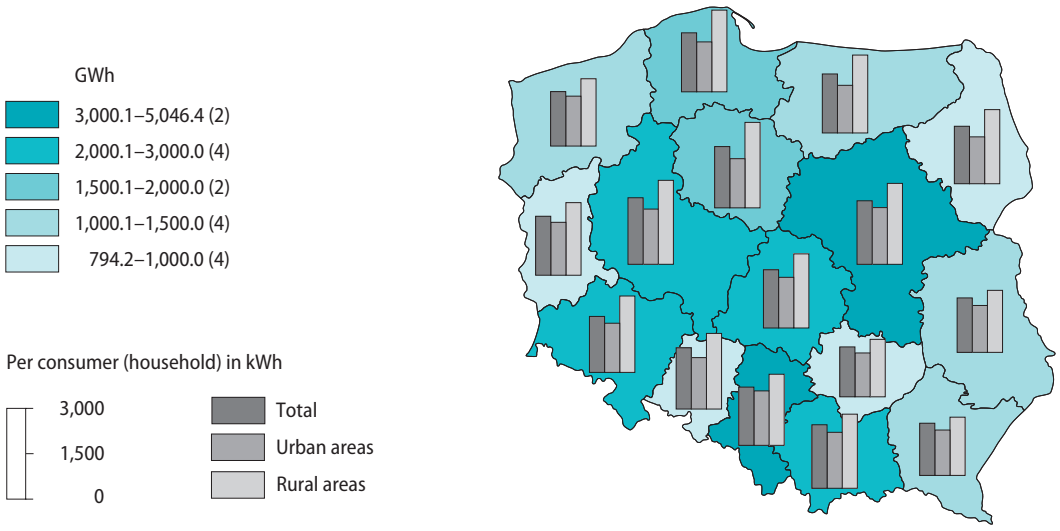
Table 10. Consumers and consumption of electricity in households

Specification	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
Consumers in thousands	14,178.5	14,468.0	15,203.9	15,397.7	15,588.0
urban areas	9,409.4	9,591.7	10,110.8	10,243.6	10,399.3
Consumption per 1 inhabitant in kWh	773.0	736.3	789.5	794.2	797.5
urban areas	785.4	727.6	777.7	777.4	777.9

In 2019, in comparison to to the previous year, household consumption of electricity per consumer in Poland decreased by 0.9% amounting to 1,963.9 kWh, however in urban areas there was a decline of 1.6% (amounting to 1,724.6 kWh per consumer) and an increase of 0.3% in rural areas (amounting to 2,443.5 kWh per consumer).

The highest household consumption of electricity per consumer was recorded in voivodships: Wielkopolskie (2,192.1 kWh) and Mazowieckie (2,104.9 kWh), while the lowest in voivodships: Świętokrzyskie (1,652.3 kWh) and Podkarpackie (1,728.0 kWh).

Map 16. Consumption of electricity in households in 2019



Gas supply network is a system of conduits providing gas supplied by enterprises, which scope of economic activity includes transmission and distribution of gas to consumers.

The system of conduits consists of:

- transmission and distribution network (with high-methane gas and nitrogenised gas) – street conduits used for distribution of gas to buildings or other objects by means of connections;
- connections – a system of conduits joining distribution gas supply network with buildings and other objects.

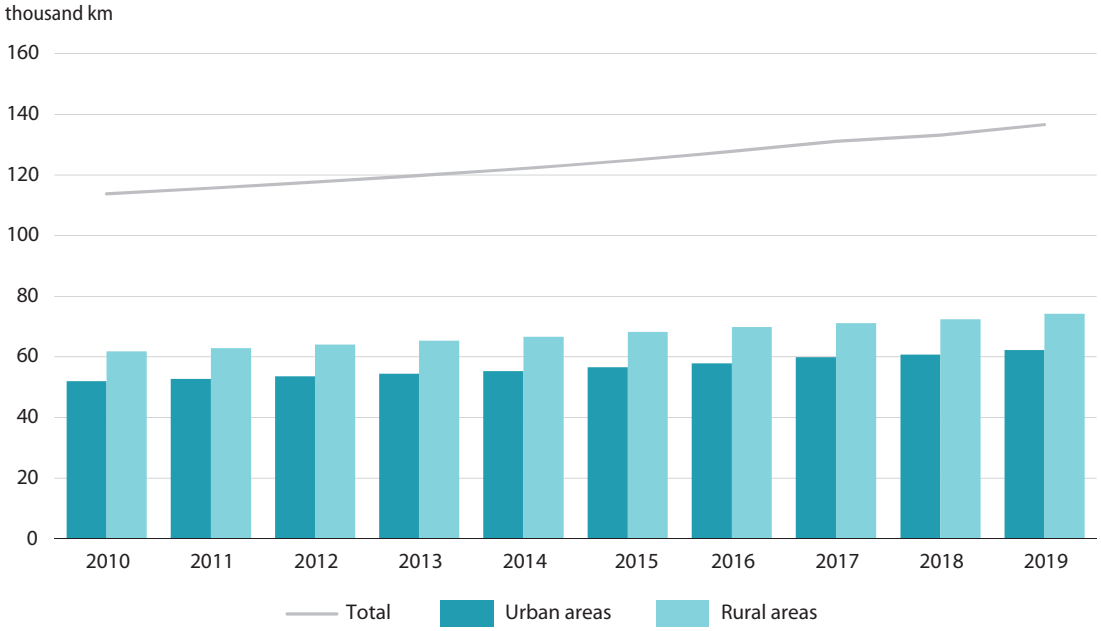
As of the end of 2019, the total length of the gas network in Poland amounted to 157.9 thousand km, 86.5% (136.6 thousand km) of which comprised the length of distribution network. Compared to the previous year, the total length of the gas network increased by 2.3% (by 3.5 thousand km, 98.2% of which accounted for the distribution network).

The length of active gas connections leading to buildings as of the end of 2019 amounted to 52.8 thousand km which was an increase of 2.9% compared to the previous year. Their number was, however, characterised by a faster pace of growth (3.8%) and as of the end of 2019 amounted to 3,048.1 thousand.

Out of the total number of 111.0 thousand connections installed in 2019, about 65.6 thousand were located in urban areas, while approximately 45.4 thousand in rural areas.

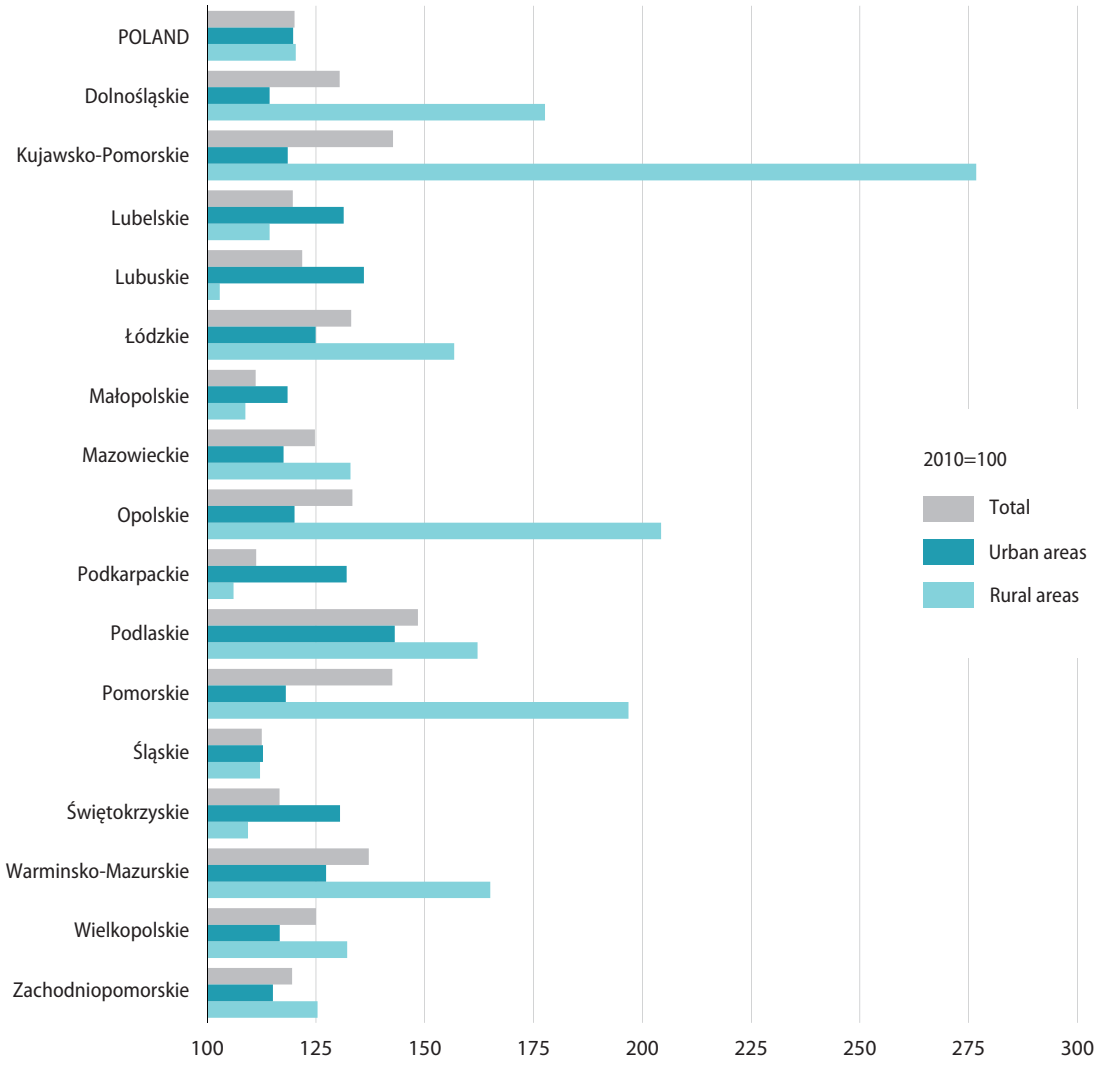
As of the end of 2019, the length of the gas distribution network increased by 3.4 thousand km (by 2.6%); in urban areas rising by 1.5 thousand km (2.5%), reached 62.3 thousand km, while in rural areas increasing by 1.9 thousand km (2.6%) amounted to 74.3 thousand km.

Chart 5. The length of active gas distribution network



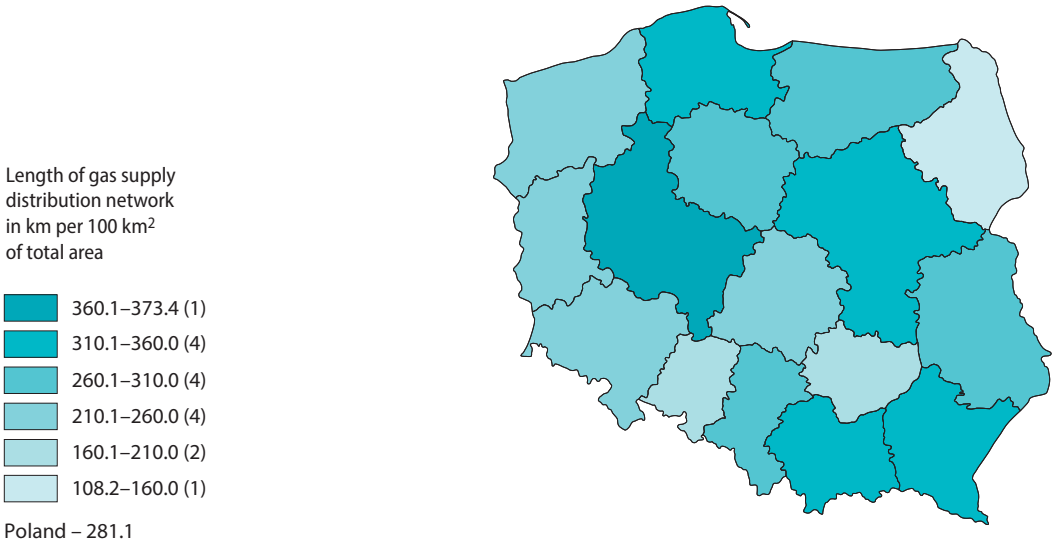
Compared to 2010, a significant increase in the length of the gas distribution network was observed in urban areas of voivodships: Podlaskie (of 43.1%), Lubuskie (of 36.0%), Podkarpackie (of 32.0%), and Lubelskie (of 31.4%), as well as in rural areas in voivodships: Kujawsko-Pomorskie (of 176.7%), Opolskie (of 104.3%), and Pomorskie (of 96.8%).

Chart 6. Change in the length of gas supply distribution network in the years 2010–2019



In the spatial layout, as of the end of 2019, the most significant changes in the length of the gas distribution network compared to the previous year were recorded on the area of the following voivodships: Podlaskie – of 8.9% (in urban areas – of 7.1%), Dolnośląskie – of 7.3% (in urban areas – of 5.2%) and Łódzkie – of 4.7% (in urban areas – of 2.7%), while the least in the following voivodships: Podkarpackie – of 1.3% (in urban areas – of 3.4%), Małopolskie – of 1.4% (in urban areas – of 1.7%) and Lubelskie – of 1.5% (in urban areas – of 1.9%).

Map 17. The density of gas supply distribution network in urban areas in 2019



Data on **gas users** concern the population in dwellings equipped with gas network installations.

In 2019, in Poland, the percentage of the total population using gas supply system increased by 0.6 percentage point compared to 2018, and amounted to 52.9%. In urban areas, the gas supply system was used by 71.4% of the total population (by 0.2 percentage point more than in the previous year), while in rural areas – by 25.2% of the total population (by 1.2 percentage point more than in the previous year).

Table 11. Population using gas from gas supply system and consumption of gas in households

Specification	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
Consumers of gas from gas supply system in % of total population	52.5	52.1	52.1	52.3[b]	52.9
in urban areas	72.9	71.6	71.2	71.2[b]	71.4
Consumption of gas from gas supply system per 1 inhabitant in kWh	110.0[a]	1,060.3	1,224.0	1,221.0	1,246.7
in urban areas	145.9[a]	1,369.6	1,564.5	1,553.0	1,557.1

a In m^3.
b Data regarding the number of consumers of gas from gas supply system (households) were revised and differ from data published in 2019.

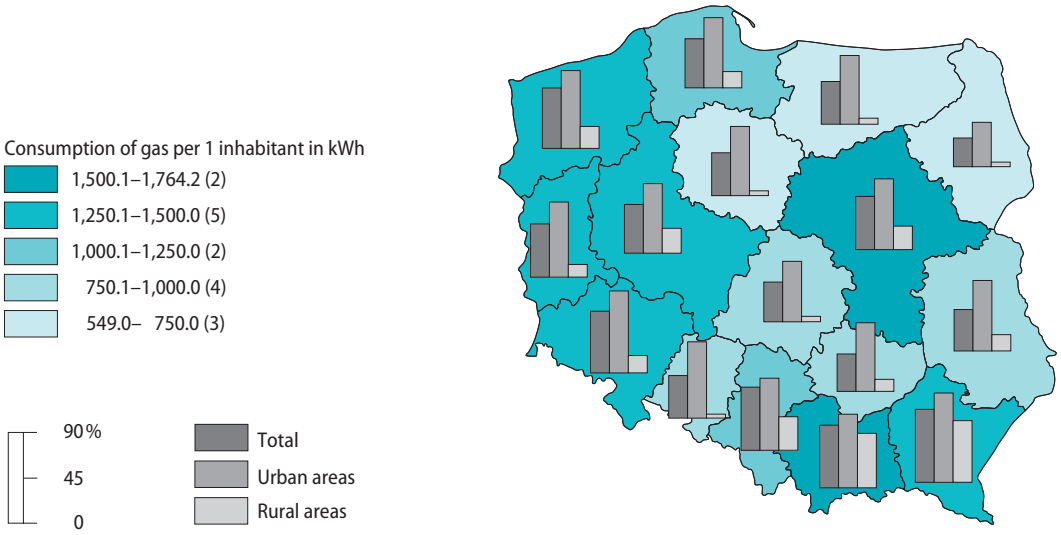
Data regarding the **number of consumers of gas fuels** come from entities which have concessions for gas trade and are based on the number of contracts with consumers of gas from gas supply system.

In 2019, in Poland, the household consumption of gas from the gas supply system amounted to 47,855.3 GWh and compared to 2018, increased by 2.0% (by 951.9 GWh), with a simultaneous rise in the number of consumers of 1.9%. In urban areas, the increase in gas consumption amounted to 0.1%, while the number of consumers rose by 1.2%.

In rural areas, gas consumption increased by 8.3%, while the number of consumers rose by 6.3%.

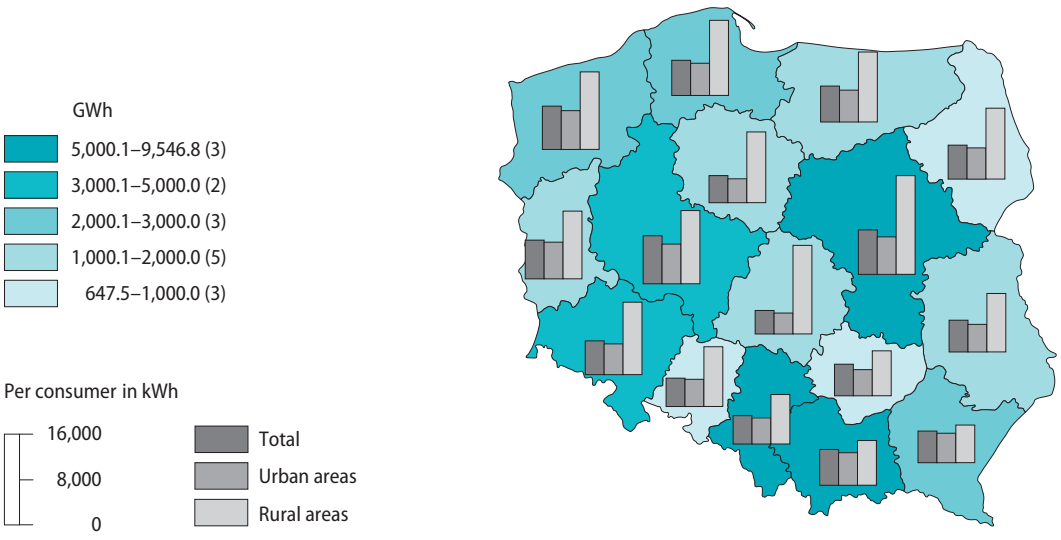
In 2019, compared to the previous year, the average household consumption of gas from the gas supply system increased by 0.1% and amounted to 6,014.1 kWh per consumer, with 5,279.8 kWh per consumer in urban areas and 10,325.6 kWh per consumer in rural areas. In urban areas, the consumption of gas from the gas supply system per consumer decreased by approx. 57 kWh (by 1.1%) while in rural areas increased by 195 kWh (by 1.9%).

Map 18. Population using gas from gas supply system and consumption of gas per 1 inhabitant in 2019



The highest average household consumption of gas from the gas supply system was recorded in voivodships: Wielkopolskie (7,721.2 kWh per consumer) and Mazowieckie (7,292.3 kWh per consumer), while the lowest in voivodships: Łódzkie (4,249.1 kWh per consumer) and Kujawsko-Pomorskie (4,327.7 kWh per consumer).

Map 19. Sale of gas from gas supply system to households in 2019



Chapter 6

Heating system management

Heating transmission network – a system of conduits transmitting heating medium to distribution conduits.

Heating distribution network – a system of distribution conduits transmitting heating medium to connections to buildings.

Connections to buildings – conduits transmitting heating medium from distribution conduits or boiler houses to heat exchangers or heating substations in buildings or other facilities.

The density of heating network per 100 km^2 – the indicator is a quotient obtained by dividing of the length of heating network by the area of surveyed surface, multiplied by 100.

The total length of heating network as of the end of 2019 amounted to 25,250.6 km, of which 64.9% accounted for transmission and distribution network (16,381.2 km), while 35.1% for connections to buildings (8,869.4 km). The number of boiler houses as of the end of 2019 amounted to 33,858, while their total available capacity – to 41,339.6 MW.

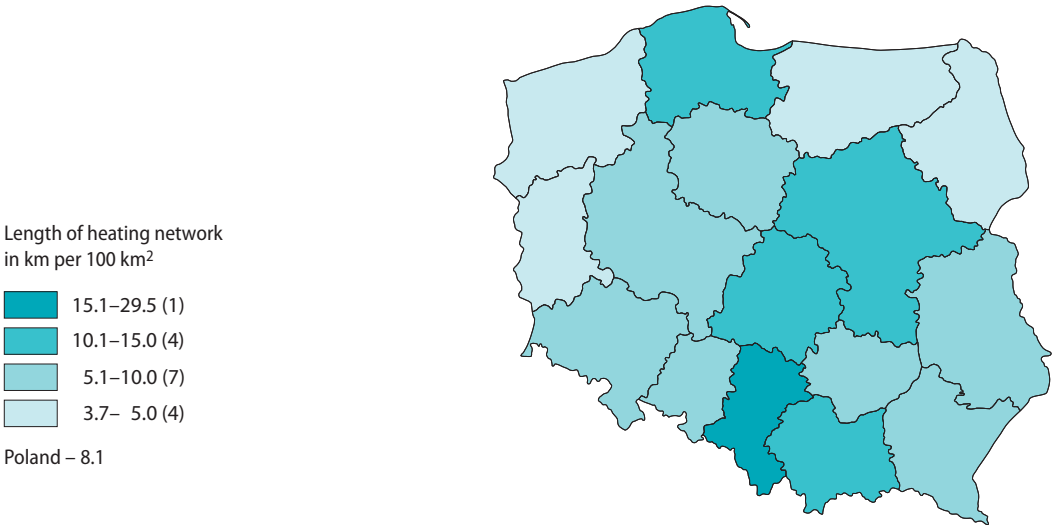
Table 12. Heating system infrastructure and sale of heating energy

Specification	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
Heating network total in km (as of 31.12)	23,666	24,688	25,232	25,219	25,251
Heating transmission and distribution network in km (as of 31.12)	15,633	15,932	16,381	16,296	16,381
Connections to buildings in km (as of 31.12)	8,033	8,757	8,851	8,923	8,869
Boiler houses in pcs (as of 31.12)	14,458	23,816	24,553	23,768[a]	33,858[a]
Sale of heating energy in thousand TJ (during the year)	224.7	186.4	205.1	194.5	191.2
of which to residential buildings (during the year)	189.7	147.2	158.3	149.8	148.6

a Since 2019 information on cubic volume of buildings fitted with central heating are not collected, which resulted in differences in data regarding the number of boiler houses for 2018–2019.

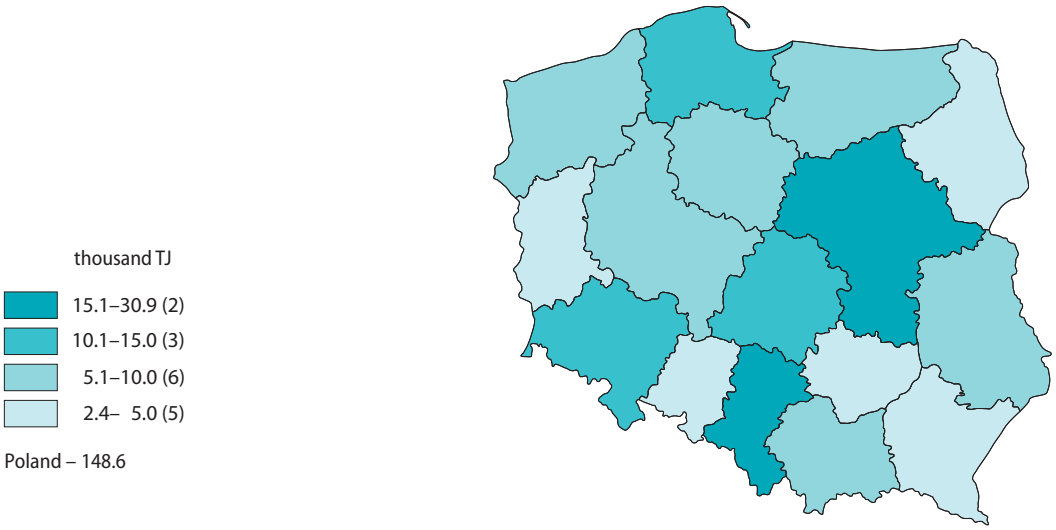
The density of heating network in Poland as of the end of 2019 amounted to 8.1 km per 100 km^2. The highest density of heating network occurred in voivodships: Śląskie (29.5 km per 100 km^2), Małopolskie (13.4 km per 100 km^2), Pomorskie (10.4 km per 100 km^2), Łódzkie (10.2 km per 100 km^2) and Mazowieckie (10.1 km per 100 km^2), while the lowest in voivodships: Lubuskie (3.7 km per 100 km^2), Podlaskie (4.1 km per 100 km^2), Warmińsko-Mazurskie (4.2 km per 100 km^2) and Zachodniopomorskie (4.8 km per 100 km^2).

Map 20. The density of heating network in 2019



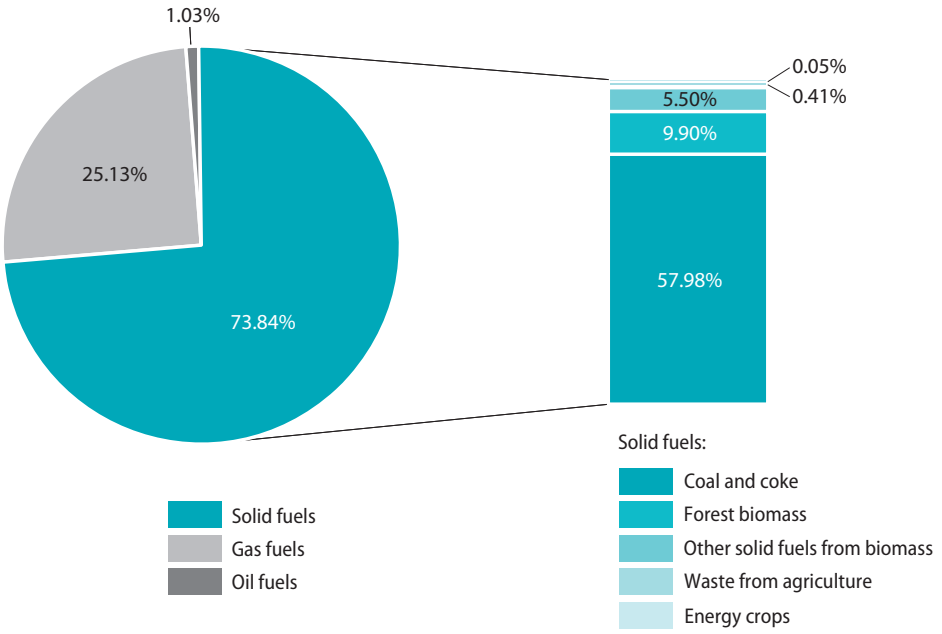
In 2019, the heat sales volume amounted to 191.2 thousand TJ, of which 148.6 thousand TJ (77.7%) for the purpose of heating of residential buildings. Approximately 188.4 thousand TJ (98.6%) of heating energy was sold to inhabitants of urban areas, of which about 146.8 thousand TJ for heating purposes in residential buildings.

Map 21. Sale of heating energy for heating purpose in residential buildings in 2019



The majority of heating energy for heating purposes was generated with the use of solid fuels (73.84%), followed by gas (25.13%) and oil fuels (1.03%).

Chart 7. Types of fuels used for production of heating energy for heating purposes in 2019



Chapter 7

Municipal waste management

Municipal waste is waste generated in households (excluding discarded vehicles) as well as waste generated by other producers of waste (excluding hazardous waste) which because of its character or composition is similar to waste from households.

In 2019, in Poland, 12,752.8 thousand tonnes of municipal waste was generated, which constituted an increase of 2.1% compared to the previous year. On average, there was 332 kg of municipal waste generated per one inhabitant of Poland, and in urban areas it was 386 kg, while in rural areas – 251 kg. The highest amount of municipal waste generated per one inhabitant occurred in voivodships: Dolnośląskie (405 kg), Zachodniopomorskie (391 kg), Lubuskie (380 kg), and Śląskie (376 kg), while the lowest – in Świętokrzyskie (232 kg), Lubelskie (234 kg), Podkarpackie (242 kg), and Podlaskie (283 kg).

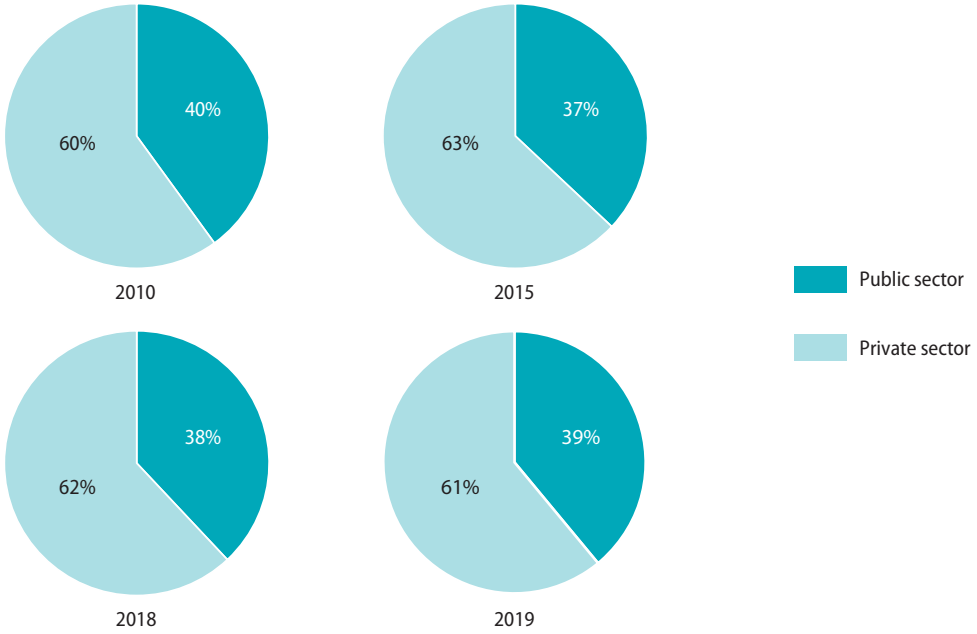
Table 13. Municipal waste collected per 1 inhabitant

Specification	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
	kg per 1 inhabitant				
Municipal waste collected, total	**261**	**283**	**312**	**325**	**332**
Municipal waste collected, mixed	238	217	227	231	229
Municipal waste collected separately	22	66	84	94	104

Municipal waste generated – due to the fact that since 1.07.2013, all real estate owners are covered by municipalities with municipal waste management system, starting from data for 2014, the amount of waste collected is deemed to be waste generated.

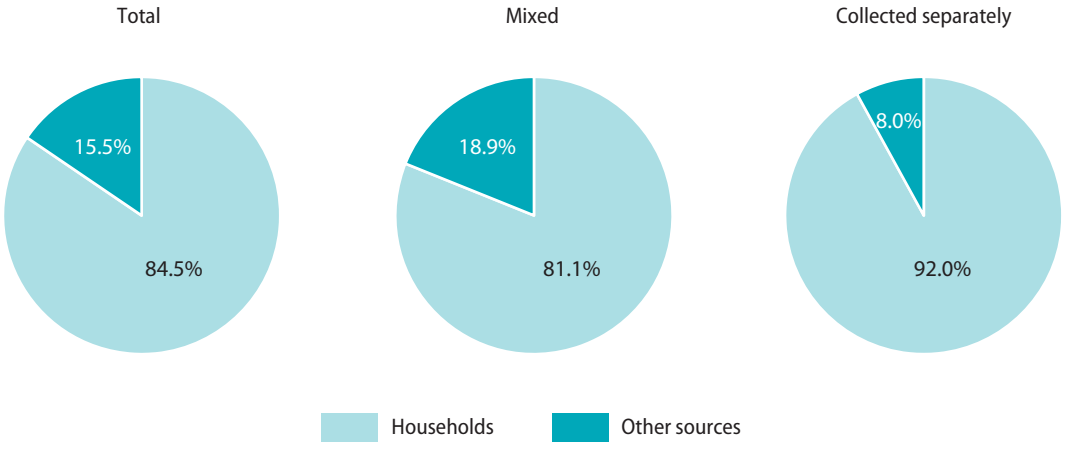
In 2019, private entities collected 61.1% of municipal waste (in 2018 – 61,7%). Foreign owned entities collected the same amount of municipal waste as in the previous year (about 10%).

Chart 8. Municipal waste collected, by ownership sector of waste collectors



In 2019, the majority of municipal waste (10,776.4 thousand tonnes) was generated by households (84.5% of the total amount of waste generated). This amount increased by 3.2% compared to the previous year. The remaining part of municipal waste collected, among others, under provision of municipal services, such as street cleaning or maintenance of parks and cemeteries, amounted to 1,976.3 thousand tonnes (a decrease of 3.1%) and constituted 15.5% of the total mass of the municipal waste generated in 2019. The share of these sources of origin of the quantity of municipal waste collected in 2018 accounted for 83.7% and 16.3%, respectively.

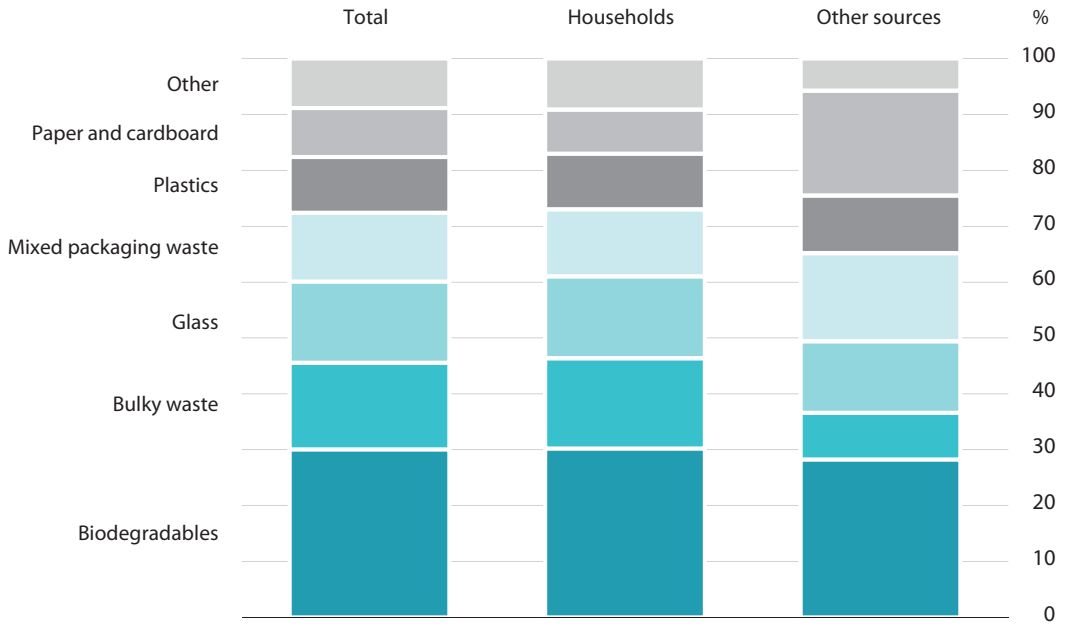
Chart 9. Sources of origin of municipal waste collected in 2019



In 2019, there was recorded an increase in the share of waste collected separately in the total amount of municipal waste generated – to 31.2% from 28.9% in 2018. The total weight of waste collected separately increased from about 3,608 thousand tonnes in 2018, to approximately 3,977 thousand tonnes in 2019 (by 10.2%). There were about 104 kg of separately collected municipal waste per one inhabitant of Poland (a year before – 94 kg), with 115 kg in urban areas and 86 kg in rural areas (a year before – 106 kg and 76 kg, respectively).

The majority (92.0%) of separately collected municipal waste in 2019 was generated by households. Compared to the previous year, the amount of such waste increased by 10.3% – from about 3,317.2 thousand tonnes to about 3,658.6 thousand tonnes. It was mainly biodegradable waste, bulky waste, glass waste, and mixed packaging waste, which accounted for 73.0% of the total separately collected municipal waste, generated by households in 2019.

Chart 10. Municipal waste collected separately, by fractions and sources of origin in 2019



Waste which originated from other sources, collected, among others, under the provision of municipal services related to maintaining cleanliness and order in municipalities (75.6% of which was biodegradable waste, paper and cardboard, mixed packaging waste, and glass) accounted for 8.7% of the amount of the municipal waste collected separately, and its weight increased by 9.6% – from about 290.8 thousand tonnes to about 318.8 thousand tonnes.

In 2019, the quantity of separately collected glass waste amounted to 15.0 kg per one inhabitant, which was an increase of 14.8% compared to the previous year. In 2019, there was about 10.3 kg of plastic waste (an increase of 20.2%, compared to 8.6 kg in 2018) and about 9.1 kg of paper and cardboard waste (7.0 kg in 2018, an increase of 29.7%) per one inhabitant of Poland. The amount of biodegradable waste collected per one inhabitant also increased – from 26.4 kg in 2018 to 31.2 kg in 2019 (by 18.1%), as well as the amount of bulky waste – from 13.7 kg to 16.1 kg (by 17.4%).

Table 14. Fractions of municipal waste collected separately per 1 inhabitant

Municipal waste collected separately	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
	kg per 1 inhabitant				
Total	**22.3**	**66.0**	**84.3**	**93.9**	**103.6**
Paper and cardboard	4.4	6.3	6.0	7.0	9.1
Glass	5.6	11.0	12.1	13.1	15.0
Plastics	3.2	7.9	7.7	8.6	10.3
Mixed packaging	.	10.9	14.3	15.0	12.7
Bulky	2.7	6.8	11.5	13.7	16.1
Biodegradable	4.7	17.1	23.3	26.4	31.2

Municipal waste separate collection facility – a stationary place where inhabitants can hand over various types of municipal waste, e.g. paper and cardboard, glass, composite packaging, plastics, or biodegradable municipal waste.

As of the end of 2019, in Poland there was 2,188 public facilities of separate waste collection (2.1% more than in the previous year), of which 802 (36.7%) were located in urban areas, and 1,386 (63.3%) in rural areas.

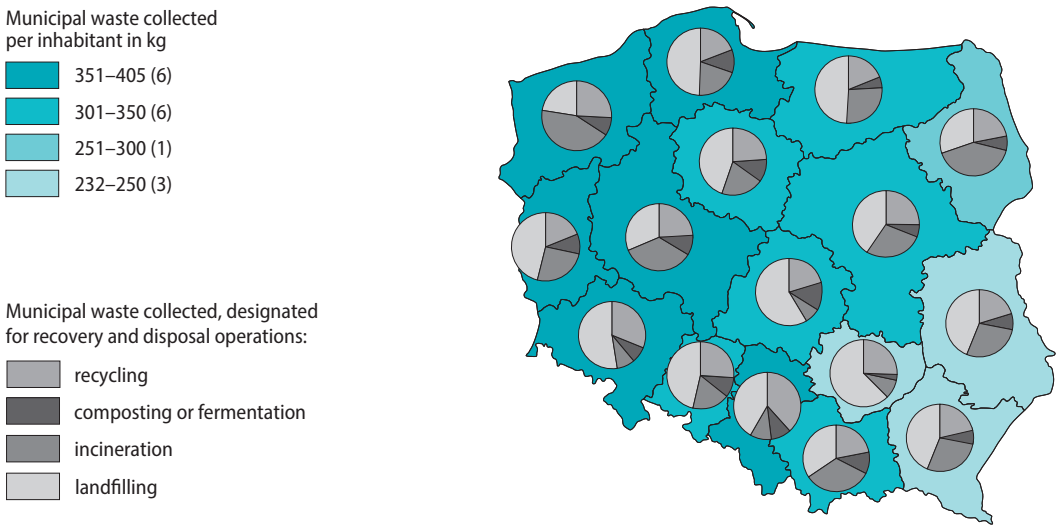
Recovery of waste – any operation the principal result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil a particular function, or waste being prepared to fulfil that function, in the plant or in the wider economy.

Disposal of waste – any operation which is not recovery even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the reclamation of substances or energy.

More than half (55.6%) of the municipal waste generated in 2019 was designated for recovery (7,087.0 thousand tonnes), of which approximately 3,192.1 thousand tonnes of municipal waste was intended for recycling (25.0% of the total amount of municipal waste generated). It constituted of both the municipal waste collected separately and the raw material waste sorted from the mixed municipal waste.

In the previous year, 3,269.1 thousand tonnes of waste intended for recycling accounted for 26.2% of the total amount of municipal waste generated.

Map 22. Municipal waste management in 2019



Approximately 1,153.2 thousand tonnes of municipal waste was directed for biological treatment processes (composting or fermentation). It was mainly bio-waste from gardens, parks and cemeteries, waste from market places, biodegradable kitchen waste, as well as food waste from gastronomy. Compared to the previous year, the share of waste intended for such treatment in the total amount of municipal waste generated increased by 0.9 percentage point to the level of 9.0%.

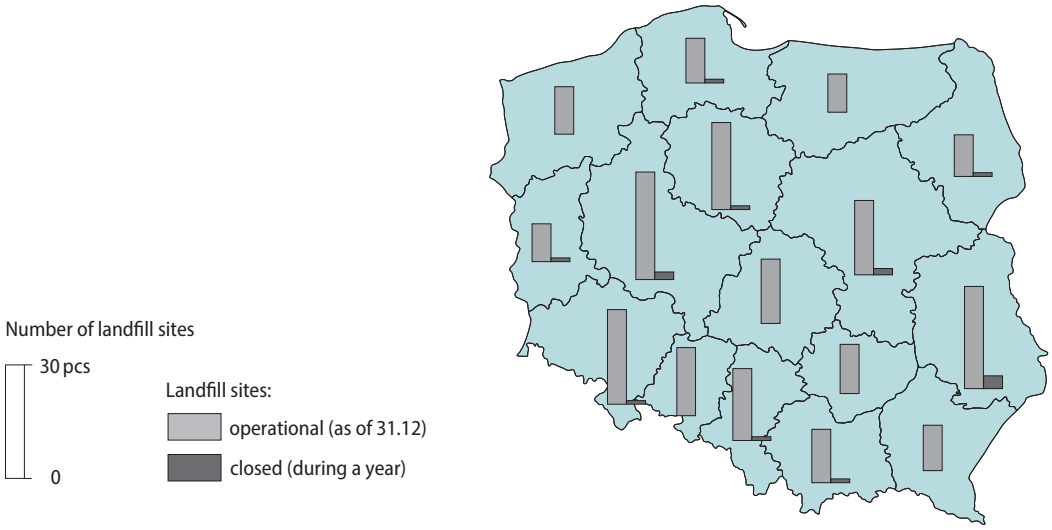
Nearly 2,741.8 thousand tonnes of municipal waste (approx. 21.5%) was intended for incineration with energy recovery. In 2018, it was 2,822.1 thousand tonnes, which accounted for approx. 22.6% of the total amount of municipal waste generated.

Table 15. Municipal waste treatment

Specification	2010	2015	2017	2018	2019
Municipal waste directed to recovery operations, total in thousand tonnes	**1,965**	**4,845**	**6,771**	**7,103**	**7,087**
material recycling	1,783	2,867	3,199	3,269	3,192
organic recycling (composting or fermentation)	181	661	848	1,012	1,153
incineration with energy recovery	–	1,318	2,724	2,822	2,742
Municipal waste intended for disposal operations, total in thousand tonnes	**8,076**	**6,018**	**5,198**	**5,382**	**5,666**
landfilling	8,037	5,897	5,000	5,191	5,487
incineration without energy recovery	39	121	198	191	179

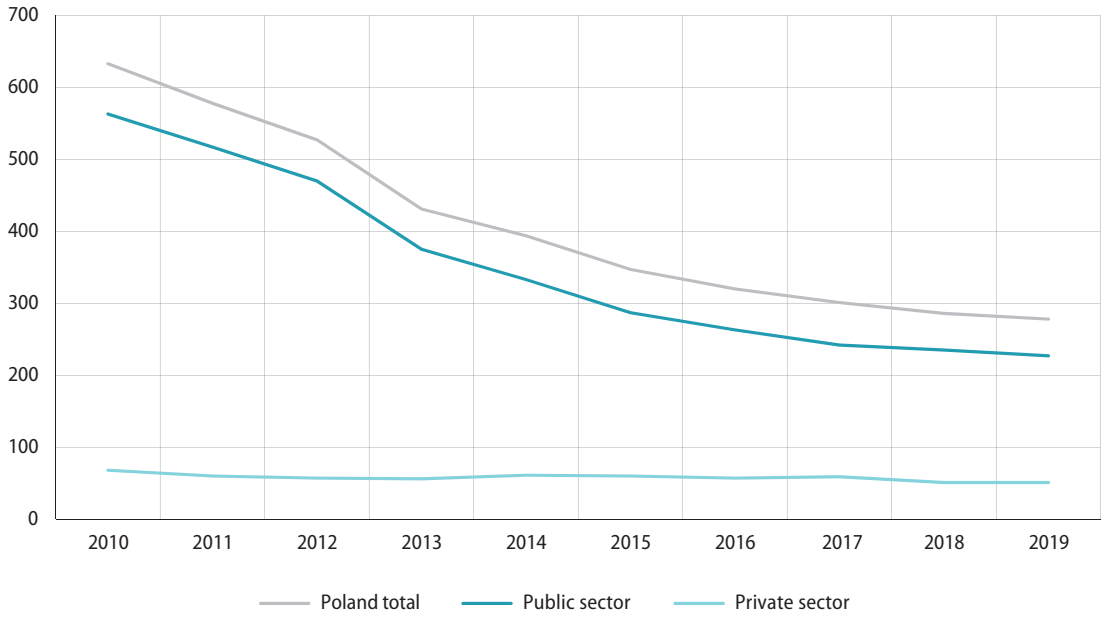
A total of 5,665.7 thousand tonnes of municipal waste was allocated for disposal, of which 5,487.2 thousand tonnes (43.0% of the total waste generated) was designated for landfilling, while 178.6 thousand tonnes (1.4% of the total waste generated) for incineration without energy recovery. Compared to 2018, a slight increase in the share of municipal waste intended for disposal by landfilling was recorded. In 2018, this particular amount of waste accounted for 41.6% of the total amount of municipal waste generated.

Map 23. Landfill sites in 2019



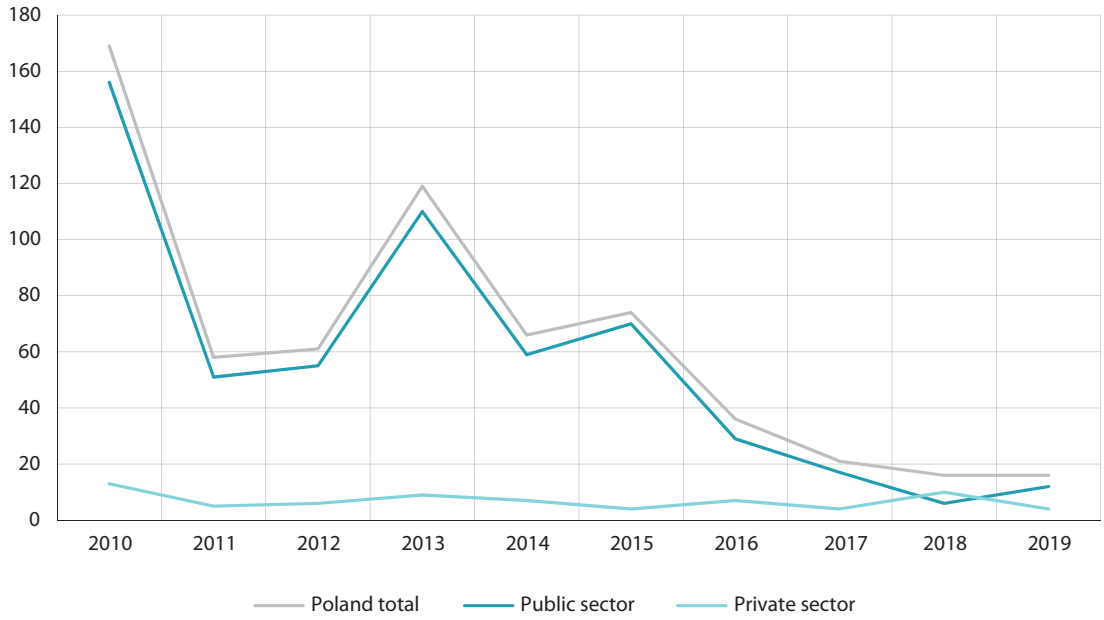
At the end of 2019, there were 278 operational landfill sites receiving municipal waste. The landfill sites covered the total area of 1,670 ha, about 19.1% of which was recultivated. In 2019, 16 landfill sites of this type were closed. Their area was 52.8 ha, of which 23.7% was reclaimed during 2019.

Chart 11. Landfill sites in operation



As a result of the need for adapting municipal waste landfill sites to the technical and organisational requirements resulting from legal provisions, the number of operational landfill sites has been systematically decreasing for several years.

Chart 12. Landfill sites closed

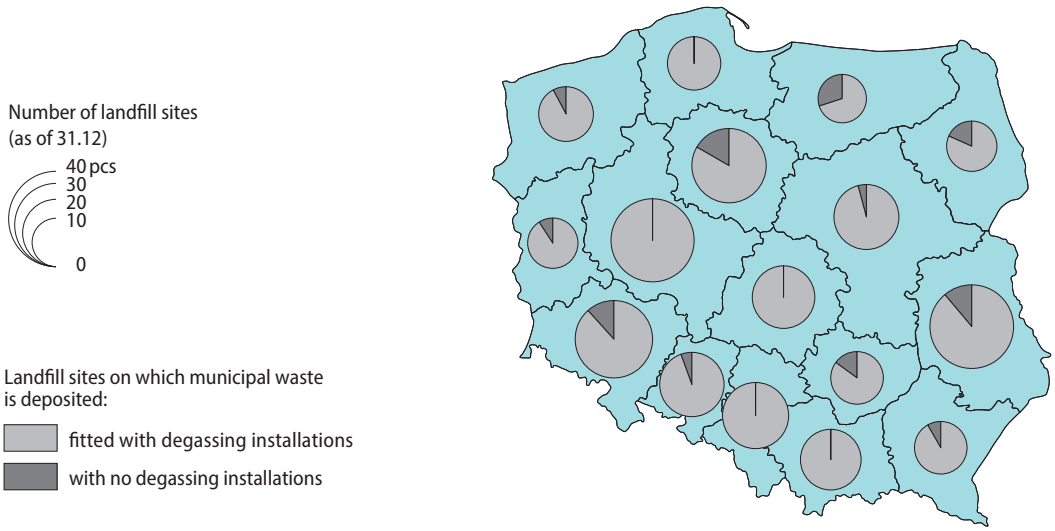


Degassing of landfill sites – collection of biogas from landfills receiving biodegradable waste. Collected gas is cleaned and used for production of energy, and if it is not possible (e.g. when its quantity is too small for effective energy production), it is neutralized through combustion in burners.

As of the end of 2019, in Poland, there were 257 landfill sites fitted with degassing installations, which accounted for 92.4% of all operational landfill sites where municipal waste was deposited (90.2% in the previous year).

Approximately 36.6% of all degassing installations were releasing gas directly to the atmosphere (no changes compared to 2018), whereas 7.3% were installations by which landfill gas was neutralised with heating energy recovery (an increase of 0.5 percentage point). About 19.8% were installations, with the use of which the landfill gas was used for production of electrical energy (a decrease of 0.4 percentage point).

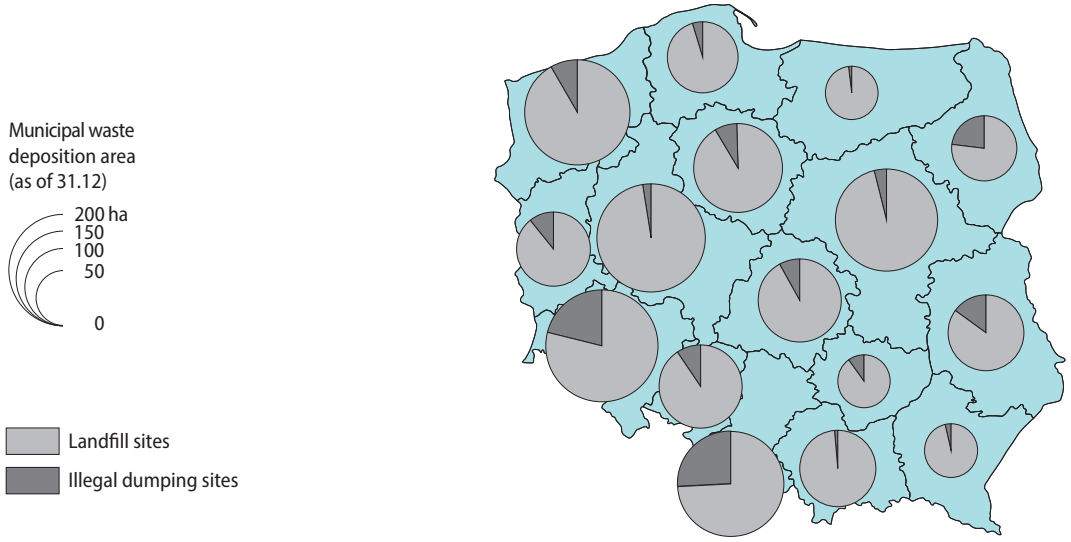
Map 24. Degassing of landfill sites in 2019



In 2019, as a result of the neutralisation of the captured landfill gas by burning, approximately 91,153.2 thousand MJ of heating energy (7.5% more than in 2018) and about 112,914.0 thousand kWh of electrical energy (7.2% more than in 2018) was recovered.

As of the end of 2019, approximately 89.4% of the area on which municipal waste was deposited in Poland, was the area of operational landfill sites (a decrease of 8.3 percentage points). The remaining part was the area of illegal dumping sites, i.e. places not intended for municipal waste deposition.

Map 25. Municipal waste deposition area in 2019

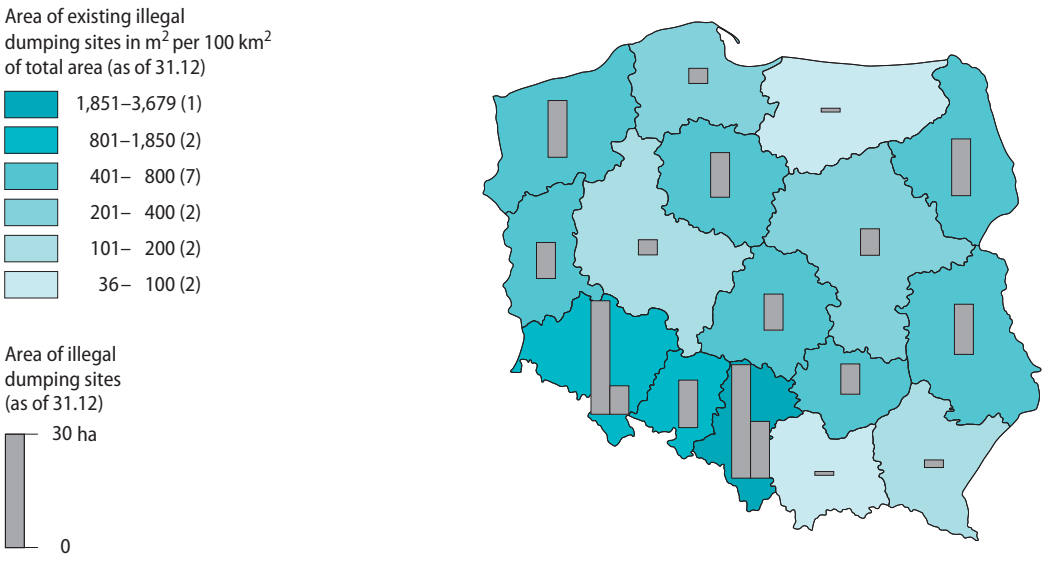


At the end of 2019, there were 1,868 illegal dumping sites in Poland, i.e. 16.3% more than as of the end of the previous year. In urban areas there were 774 of such places (an increase of 70.9% compared to 2018), while in rural areas – 1,094 (a decrease of 5,1% compared to 2018).

Map 26. Illegal dumping sites in 2019

In 2019, 11.4 thousand illegal dumping sites were removed, 78% of which in urban areas. Compared to the previous year, the total number of removed sites where municipal waste was dumped increased by 7.9% (while in urban areas it was an increase of 4.5%, in rural areas – of 21.9%). During the removal of illegal dumping sites, about 25.7 thousand tonnes of municipal waste was collected (by 2.0% more than in 2018), of which 62.3% in urban areas (a decline of 19.3% compared to the previous year) and 37.7% in rural areas (an increase of 81.4% compared to the previous year).

Map 27. Area of illegal dumping sites in 2019



Methodological notes

1. Sources and scope of data

The source of information on municipal infrastructure in 2019 are results of surveys included in the programme of statistical surveys of official statistics:

1.26.01 – Dwelling stocks management;

1.26.06 – Technical infrastructure of water supply and sewage systems, heating, gas and energy;

1.26.08 – Municipal waste and maintenance of cleanliness and order in municipalities,

and secondary use of data from surveys:

1.44.01 – Balances of fuels and energy;

1.44.02 – Electricity and heating sector.

Forms used for obtaining the data are as follows:

- M-06 Report on water supply network and sewage network;
- M-09 Report on collection and treatment of municipal waste;
- SG-01 part 3 Statistics of municipality: housing and municipal economy;
- Annex to the SG-01 report – Statistics of municipality: housing and municipal economy;
- G-02g Report on infrastructure, consumers and sales of gas from gas supply network;
- G-02b Balance report on energy carriers and heating infrastructure.

The survey in the field of housing management in the part concerning the state of dwelling stocks and selected information characterising housing conditions, was prepared on the basis of the statistical compilation The Balance of dwelling stocks for 2019 (as of 31 December).

The opening balance (as of 1 January) is:

- adjusted with changes resulting from the administrative division of the country announced in "Statistics Poland Communication on changes in the territorial division of the country";
- increased with newly built dwellings;
- decreased with decrements of the dwelling stocks.

The closing balance specified as a result of changes in these resources is automatically regarded as the opening balance for the following year.

During the preparation of the balance of dwelling stocks for 2019, physical decrements of dwelling stocks were taken into consideration (resulting from demolitions, fires, floods, combining small dwellings into larger ones and decrements resulting from an official reclassification of dwellings into non-residential). However, some categories of decrements which decrease the number of dwellings but do not cause physical decrements in the existing buildings, i.e. decrements due to occupants moving to other houses and using the previous houses for various utility purposes or leaving them vacant (unoccupied) were not included.

Information on dwelling stocks included in the present publication cover dwellings in residential and non-residential buildings and concern (permanently and temporarily) inhabited dwellings and uninhabited dwellings with a potential to become inhabited dwellings. However, premises in collective accommodation places (boarding schools, student dormitories, employee boarding houses, social welfare homes, small children's homes, convents, etc.) and temporarily inhabited provisory premises and movable facilities (livestock accommodations, caravans, ships, etc.) were not included.

The balance of dwelling stocks is specified by the number of dwellings, the number of rooms, the size of the useful floor area of dwellings expressed in m^2 fitted with basic sanitary, and technical installations.

The survey in the scope of water supply and sewage systems is conducted as a full survey and covers entities which primary, secondary, and ancillary activities is management of water supply and sewage systems.

Data regarding users of water supply and sewage systems concern population living in residential buildings, and in collective accommodation establishments, connected to a specific network.

Data on gas consumers concern the population in dwellings equipped with gas network installations.

Data concerning population using water supply and sewage systems, since 2014, due to a change in estimation methods, are not fully comparable with the respective data presented also in the publication "Municipal infrastructure".

Data on energy management cover entities granted concessions for transmission and distribution of fuels and energy. Information on number of consumers and consumption of electricity concern households and collective accommodation establishments with complex agreements or distribution service contracts. Data on consumption of electricity were stated on the basis of advance payments made by consumers.

Data on number of consumers of gas fuels come from entities which have concessions for gas trade and are based on the number of contracts with consumers of gas from gas supply network.

Information concerning heating energy include residential buildings and buildings of offices and institutions with central heating provided by heating transmission network, considered as a system of interconnected installations cooperating with each other, used for transmission and distribution of heating medium to recipients. Information on boiler houses include types of boilers, their power (i.e. maximum quantity of heat energy, which can be produced by boilers in a given time unit), annual production, and installed equipment supporting air protection (limiting emissions of air pollutants).

Since 2014, data on heating referring to sales of heating energy, number of boiler houses, characteristics of boilers, and equipment installed in boiler houses protecting the atmosphere against emissions of pollutions take into the account the revised subjective scope of the survey.

The survey providing information on municipal waste is conducted as a full survey and includes entities operating in the field of collection or treatment of municipal waste. Results include: amount of waste collected (of which from households) and intended for recovery and disposal processes.

Due to the fact that since 1.07.2013, all real estate owners are covered by municipalities with municipal waste management system, the amount of waste collected is deemed to be waste generated. The conducted reform of the municipal waste management system changed the organisation of collection of municipal waste from real estate owners. At present, municipalities are obligated to organise tenders for collection of municipal waste from real estate owners or tenders for collection and management of that waste. Real estate owners do not enter into contracts with entities providing municipal waste collection services from inhabitants by themselves.

For computing data per 1 inhabitant (1,000 of population, etc.) as of the end of the year (e.g. number of population using municipal equipment), data on population as of 31 December were used, while for data describing the magnitude of a phenomenon during the year (e.g. consumption) – as of 30 June.

2. Main definitions

Dwelling stocks – both inhabited and uninhabited dwellings located in residential and non-residential buildings. Collective accommodation facilities (i.e. workers' hostels, dormitories, boarding houses, or social welfare houses), except for dwellings located therein, provisional facilities and movable objects (i.e. portable huts, railway cars, barges and ships), are not included in the dwelling stock.

Dwelling – a premise consisting of one or more rooms including auxiliary rooms, built or rebuilt for living in it, separated constructionally (with fixed walls) within a building, with independent entrance from the staircase, common hall, entrance hall or directly from the street, courtyard or garden. Under auxiliary rooms one shall understand: a hallway, a hall, a bathroom, a toilet, a dressing room, a pantry, a storeroom and other rooms located within the premises of a dwelling, serving the occupants to fulfil their housing and economic needs.

Uninhabited dwelling – a dwelling in which nobody stays temporarily or lives permanently.

These dwellings are unoccupied for various reasons and that is why they are classified as follows:

- allotted for permanent living, i.e. dwellings:
  - for sale or to be let, being functional places, uninhabited because of judicial proceedings, because of completing administrative and legal formalities, as well as being housing reserve of gminas;
  - new, to be inhabited, located in newly built buildings and buildings being currently extended;
  - being renovated or waiting for renovation;
- the so-called second dwellings, which are used by their owners (occupants) for temporary or seasonal stay;
- used only for running a business (only dwellings that have not been permanently adapted to such a business).

Useful floor area of dwellings – the useful floor area of a dwelling should be understood as the total area of all rooms within the dwelling, especially the area of living room, kitchen (with or without a window), pantry, entrance hall, alcove, bathroom, toilets, encased veranda or porch, dressing room and other rooms, fulfilling the housing and economic needs of the residents, regardless of their purpose and way of usage.

The area of the hallway is usually calculated as a floor area of a dwelling. The area of the hallway is not calculated as useful floor area unless it connects the residential part of the building to its storage or economic part, or there is more than one dwelling in the building and the hallway is used by all residents as a common accessible hall.

The area of balconies, terraces, recessed balconies, mezzanines, wardrobes, cabinets, cubby holes, laundries, drying rooms, rooms for storing prams, attics, cellars and coal-holes, as well as the area of garages, water pump rooms and boiler rooms is not recognized as dwelling's useful floor area.

Room – a space in a dwelling, separated from other rooms with fixed walls from the floor to the ceiling with direct sun lighting, with area not smaller than 4 m^2. Both living room and the kitchen are regarded a room if they meet the above mentioned criteria.

The entrance hall, the hall, the bathroom, the toilet, the pantry, the encased veranda or porch, the dressing room, the alcove, the storeroom, etc. are not regarded a room, regardless of their area and lighting.

The social premises rental contract is a contract for the rent of premises suitable for settlement with regard to equipment and technical conditions, whose room area per household member cannot be smaller than 5 m^2, and in the case of a single-person household – 10 m^2, with a possible lower standard of the dwelling.

The social premises rental contract is concluded for a fixed period and may me concluded with a person who has not legal tittle to the premises and whose household incomes do not exceed the amount speci-

fied in the resolution of the gmina council adopted on the basis of the act on protection of rights of occupants, municipal dwelling stock, and amendment of the Civil Code, and amendment of certain other acts. The rent price in the case of the rental of social premises cannot exceed half of the lowest rent price applicable in the gmina's dwelling stocks. These are premises meeting the statutory requirements that the gmina allocated for rent or sublease within a social rental.

Temporary premises are premises suitable for settlement, having access to a water supply system and a lavatory, even if the equipment is located outside the building, natural and electric lighting, a heating system, non-humidified building partitions and the possibility of installing cooking appliances, as well as providing at least 5 m^2 of room surface per person and, if possible, located in the same or a nearby area where the rehoused persons have lived so far.

Technical and sanitary installations in dwellings – this category refers to dwellings with at least one of the following sanitary and technical appliances: a water supply system, a flushable toilet, a bathroom, central heating or gas from gas supply system.

Dwellings are considered to be equipped with:

- **a water supply system** – if there is a tap with running water within the premises. 'Supply of piped water' is understood as a system (including the recipient installations in the dwelling), which supplies water from the water supply system (by means of active connections) from the street pipeline to local systems (own water intake);
- **a flushable toilet** – if there is a sanitary system within their premises, connected to the water supply system, and discharging wastewater to the sewage system, or to the local appliances (septic tanks);
- **a bathroom** (bathing device, shower with water outflow) – a room, with a bathtub or a shower (or both), as well as a system discharging wastewater to the sewage system, or to the local appliances (septic tanks);
- **gas supply from the gas supply system** – if there is a system within the premises which (along with recipient installations in the dwelling) supplies gas to active connections;
- **central heating** – if there is a system within the premises which supplies heat from a central heating source, i.e. heat and power stations, thermal power station, local boiler house within the premises of the housing estate, central heating furnace installed in own boiler house or in any other room. Electric floor heating is also regarded as central heating.

Housing allowance is a common and periodical financial benefit resulting from regulations of the Act of 21 June 2001 on residential benefits, intended to provide financial support for expenses related to occupation of residential premises or one family houses.

Characteristics: it is an obligatory provision granted upon the request of entitled person meaning that people meeting statutory conditions have the right to demand its payment and it is common (it will be granted regardless of the legal title to the premises that appertains the entitled person apart from exceptions stipulated by law), as well as periodical – because it is granted for a defined period with a possibility to be granted again in the case of further meeting the statutory conditions.

The criteria entitling to be granted housing allowance are:

- legal title to the premises – allowance may be granted to residential premises tenants and subtenants living in residential dwellings to which they have cooperative right to residential premises, in residential dwellings in buildings constituting their ownership and to the owners of housing premises and other persons having a legal title to occupy residential premises (e.g. contract for use) and bearing expenses for their maintenance, as well as persons inhabiting housing premises without a legal title, waiting for alternative or social premises;
- the amount of family income;
- dwelling's size – dwelling's useful floor area. The Act uses the expression of "a normative surface" – the allowance is granted for a strictly defined number of the dwelling's meters.

When calculating the amount of allowance expenses (borne by a household) related to rent are taken into account, as well as the exploitation costs of thermal power, water and commissioning of liquid waste. Housing allowance constitutes a difference between housing expenses on normative useful floor area of the inhabited dwelling and the part of expenses borne by a person granted the allowance.

From 2004 payment of housing allowances is – according to Article 10 (1) of the Act of 21 June 2001 on residential benefits – own task of the gmina.

Pursuant to the Act of 13 November 2003 with income of local government units, housing allowance height must not exceed 70% of actual expenses incurred for the housing premises. The commune council, by means of a resolution, may increase or reduce, no more than by 20 percentage points, the height of percentage rates. This means that the maximum height of paid allowance may amount from 50% to 90% residential expenses.

The information presented in the publication applies only to housing allowances physically paid in reporting year, regardless of the date of the granted performance allowance decision.

Municipal infrastructure – basic installations and service institutions, which are essential to functioning of the economy and population.

Water supply system – a set of water network devices serving collection of surface and underground waters, public wells, devices serving storage and treatment of water, water supply networks, and water pressure control devices.

Water supply transmission network – conduits bringing water from distant water intakes to distribution network.

Water supply distribution network – street conduits used for distribution of water to consumers by the connections to buildings and other objects.

Water supply connection – a segment of a conduit connecting water supply network with internal water supply installation on a property of consumer together with a valve past the main water-meter.

Water delivered to households – the quantity of water collected from water supply network using facilities installed in a building.

Sewage system – a complete sewage collection system serving discharging of wastewater, including sewage network, outlets of devices used to emit sludge into the waters, or into the ground, sewage pretreatment and treatment facilities, and sewage pumping stations.

Active sewage network – a system of covered (underground) conduits discharging sewage from buildings and other objects to collectors or sewage treatment facilities.

Sewage connection – a segment of conduit connecting internal sewage installations on a property of consumer with the sewage network, past a first inspection chamber from a building, and in case of its lack – from a boundary of the property.

Wastewater discharged from households – domestic wastewater discharged to the sewage system during a year (excluding rainwater, infiltration water, and sewage transported to dump stations).

Domestic wastewater – sewage from residential buildings, collective accomodation establishments, and public buildings, which originates from the human metabolism or activities of households as well as sewage of similar composition originating from such buildings.

Septic tank – an installation and device intended for an accumulation of liquid waste where it is generated.

Household wastewater treatment system – a complex of devices intended for treatment of sewage produced in one or more households.

Liquid waste – sewage stored temporarily in septic tanks.

Dump station – an installation and device, placed near a sewer or a wastewater treatment plant, intended for a collecting of liquid waste transported by sewage disposal vehicles from where it is accumulated.

Gas supply network – a system of conduits providing gas supplied by enterprises, which scope of economic activity includes transmission and distribution of gas to consumers. The system of conduits consists of:

- transmission and distribution network (with high-methane gas and nitrogenised gas) – street conduits used for distribution of gas to buildings or other objects by means of connections;
- connections – a system of conduits joining distribution gas supply network with buildings and other objects.

Heating transmission network – a system of conduits transmitting heating medium to distribution conduits.

Heating distribution network – a system of distribution conduits transmitting heating medium to connections to buildings.

Connections to buildings – conduits transmitting heating medium from distribution conduits or boiler houses to heat exchangers or heating substations in buildings or other facilities

Boiler house – a building or a room with boilers and devices used for production of thermal energy for heating or both heating and supplying hot water.

Heat only boilers – devices used exclusively for production of heat (steam heat or hot water heat).

Heat generation – total amount of heat generated in devices (e.g. boilers, heat exchangers).

Municipal waste – waste generated in households (excluding discarded vehicles) as well as waste generated by other producers of waste (excluding hazardous waste) which because of its character or composition is similar to waste from households.

Biodegradable waste – waste capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic decomposition.

Collecting of waste – gathering of waste for the purpose of transport to a waste treatment facility, including the preliminary sorting (not leading to essential change of character and composition of waste and not leading to change of classification of waste) and preliminary storage of waste by a waste collector.

Separate collection – the collection where a waste stream is kept separately by type and nature so as to facilitate a specific treatment.

Municipal waste separate collection facility – a stationary place where inhabitants can hand over various types of municipal waste, e.g. paper and cardboard, glass, composite packaging, plastics, or biodegradable municipal waste.

Waste management – the collection, transport, recovery and disposal of waste, including the supervision of such operations and the after-care of disposal sites, and including actions taken as a dealer or broker.

Treatment – recovery or disposal operations, including preparation prior to recovery or disposal.

Recovery – any operation the principal result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil a particular function, or waste being prepared to fulfil that function, in the plant or in the wider economy.

Thermal treatment of waste – incineration of waste by oxidation and other processes of thermal treatment of waste including pyrolysis, gasification, and plasma process provided that substances originating from these processes of thermal treatment of waste are incinerated afterwards.

Energy recovery – thermal waste treatment as a result of which energy is generated.

Recycling – any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes. It includes the reprocessing of organic material but does not include energy recovery and the reprocessing into materials that are to be used as fuels or for backfilling operations.

Disposal – any operation which is not recovery even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the reclamation of substances or energy.

Landfill site – a structure for the deposit of waste.

Degassing of landfill sites – collection of biogas from landfills receiving biodegradable waste. Collected gas is cleaned and used for production of energy, and if it is not possible (e.g. when its quantity is too small for effective energy production), it is neutralized through combustion in burners.