

SWOT analysis about the labour market, the Silesian Voivodeship, Poland

Spatial structure:

The Silesian Voivodeship is located in the southern part of Poland. It borders the following voivodeships: Opolskie, Łódzkie, Świętokrzyskie and Małopolskie as well as the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The area of the voivodeship is over 12 333 sq km (nearly 3,9% of Poland's total area). At the end of 2009 the number of inhabitants comprised 4,64 million (12,2% of Poland's total population).

The birthrate amounted -0,2. It is the most densely populated voivodeship in Poland - 1 sq km is inhabited by 376 people (the country's average – 124). The high urbanization rate is evidenced by the value of almost 78,1% of the population inhabiting the region's 71 cities. The largest cities of the Silesian Voivodeship: Katowice, Częstochowa, Sosnowiec, Gliwice. The largest cities in Poland: Warszawa, Kraków, Łódź, Wrocław.

Transport connection/infrastructure (public transport, highways):

The municipal transport network in the Silesian Voivodeship is well developed which is evidenced by over 20-percent share in the length of all the transport lines in Poland. Silesia has also one the largest railway network in Poland, available for passengers and for the transport of goods. In the voivodeship, about 50% of domestic rail transports are realised. A key element is also the International Airport in Pyrzowice.

Economic structure:

At the end of 2009, among the working population the highest number of working people was noted in industry (they constituted almost 31% of all). Apart from the industry, the high rate was also observed in the following sections: trade, repair of motor vehicles (17%), education (almost 8%), construction industry (over 7%).

The Silesian Voivodeship has a large resources of mineral materials what creates the region with the most developed extractive industry. The Silesia has also a great potential in the field of the high technology.

Employees, proportion of men/women, home country nationals/migrants:

At the end of 31st December 2010, the number of working people amounted 1592,7 thous. what constituted 11,8% of all working people in the country, almost 56% of working people in the Voivodeship were men (885,3 thous.). In the region there is a negative migration balance (-1).

Unemployment rate:

At the end of November 2011 the unemployment rate comprised 9,9%. It was by 2,2 point lower than in the country (12,1%). The Silesian Voivodeship ranks the third (after Mazowsze Region and Wielkopolska Region) in terms of the lowest unemployment rate. There was still observed a very high territorial differentiation of unemployment. At the end of November

2011, the lowest unemployment rate characterized city with poviát status - Katowice (4,3%). The highest unemployment rate was observed in the city with poviát status - Bytom (18,6%).

Availability of jobs:

In November 2011, the local labour offices had 6 264 vacancies and places for vocational activation. Between January and November 2011, local labour offices received 87,2 thous. vacancies and places for vocational activation. Creating the system with information flow (central base with job offer). Attractive job offers submitted by a foreign employers (migration of employees).

Number of people without any graduation, proportion of low and high qualified people:

The majority of the unemployed registered in the local labour offices comprised persons with relatively low level of education. The two largest groups among the unemployed constituted persons with lower secondary, primary and incomplete primary education and basic vocational education (their shares amounted respectively to 27,7% and 27,4% of the total number of unemployed registered at the end of III quarter 2011). The certificate of completion of post-secondary and vocational secondary schools had 23,4% of the total number of the unemployed, the graduates from tertiary schools constituted 11,8% and general secondary schools completed 9,7%.