

Education in the 2024/2025 school year (preliminary data)

1.07.2025


0.1%

A decrease in the number of persons participating in educational institutions in comparison with the 2023/24 school year

In the 2024/25 school year, 6.6 million children, youth and adults were enrolled in pre-primary establishments, primary schools, post-primary and post-secondary schools, accounting for 17.7% of Poland's population (38.3 thousand fewer than in the previous year).

Pre-primary education

In the Polish education system, pre-primary education is provided in nursery schools, pre-primary sections in primary schools, pre-primary education units and pre-primary centres. **In the 2024/25 school year, there were 22.3 thousand pre-primary establishments (1.0% fewer than in the previous year), attended by 1452.4 thousand children (3.9% fewer).**

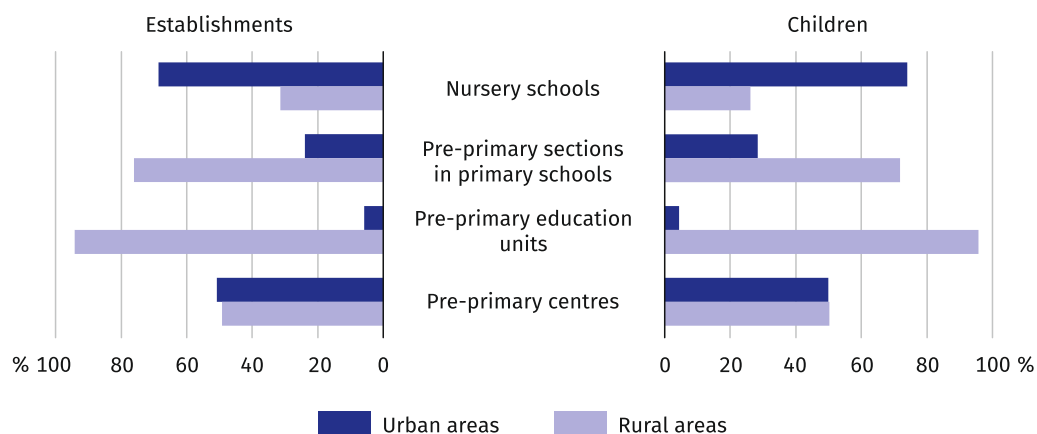
971 per 1,000 children aged 3-6 years participated in various forms of pre-primary education in the reported period (961 a year earlier). The net enrollment rate for pre-primary education stood at 115.8% in cities and 74.0% in rural areas.

Table 1. Pre-primary education
As of 30 September

SPECIFICATION a – 2023/24 b – 2024/25		Establishments	Sections	Children
Total	a	22505	76276	1512017
	b	22279	75098	1452357
Nursery schools	a	13888	60788	1228695
	b	13962	60224	1188544
Pre-primary sections in primary schools	a	7218	14089	260026
	b	6997	13554	242509
Pre-primary education units	a	37	37	522
	b	34	34	457
Pre-primary centres	a	1362	1362	22774
	b	1286	1286	20847

81.8% of children enrolled in pre-primary education attended nursery schools, while 16.7% – pre-primary sections in primary schools

Chart 1. Pre-primary education in urban and rural areas in the 2024/25 school year
As of 30 September



In the 2024/25 school year, 65.9% of the total number of children enrolled in pre-primary education attended establishments in urban areas

Primary schools for children and youth

In the 2024/25 school year, 3.2 million pupils (205.7 thousand more than in 2023/24) attended 14.0 thousand primary schools for children and youth in Poland. There were 6.0 thousand primary schools in urban areas and 8.0 thousand in rural areas. 2.1 million pupils were enrolled in schools located in cities, while 1.1 million pupils attended schools in rural areas.

Table 2. Primary schools for children and youth
As of 30 September

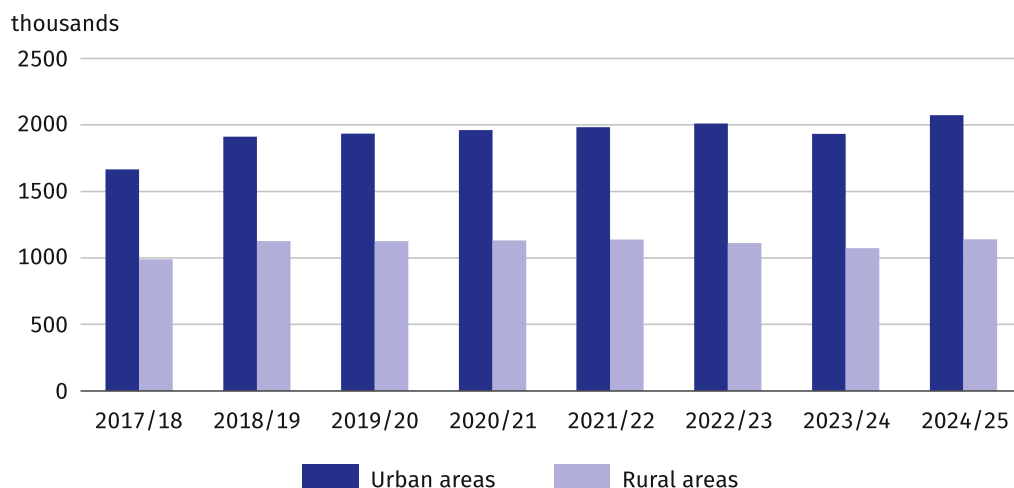
SPECIFICATION a – 2023/24 b – 2024/25		Schools	Sections	Pupils		Graduates	
				total	of which girls	total	of which girls
Total	a	14000	180881	3007434	1451572	225077	104500
	b	14012	190723	3213121	1556864	•	•
of which:							
Branch schools	a	167	680	7073	3423	122	50
	b	151	637	6789	3310	•	•
General art schools ^a	a	55	659	11200	6880	897	541
	b	57	684	11862	7309	•	•
Special schools	a	947	15649	53456	17890	6960	2488
	b	953	16459	56853	19076	•	•

In the 2024/25 school year, there were 6.8% more pupils/students in primary schools for children and youth than in the previous year

a Not leading to professional certification.

Chart 2. Pupils in primary schools for children and youth in urban and rural areas

As of 30 September



In the 2024/25 school year, 64.5% pupils were enrolled in primary schools for children and youth in urban areas, 35.5% in rural areas

In the 2024/25 school year, primary schools for children and youth run by public sector entities represented 88.4% of all establishments (80.6% in urban areas and 94.2% in rural areas). Non-public sector entities operated 11.6% of schools (including special schools), which enrolled 94.1% of pupils in urban areas and 5.9% in rural areas, respectively. The largest group (83.7%) comprised schools run by local government units — 77.5% in urban areas and 88.5% in rural areas. Social organisations and associations also operated more schools in rural areas (8.2%) than in urban areas (5.6%).

In the 2024/25 school year, the average section size in mainstream primary schools was 18 pupils. Sections in primary schools for children and youth (excluding special schools) were smaller in rural areas. The average section in a rural school had 15 pupils, compared to 21 per section in urban schools.

225.1 thousand pupils graduated from primary schools at the end of the 2023/24 school year.

Post-primary schools for youth

In the 2024/25 school year, there were 6.9 thousand post-primary schools for youth in Poland (including special schools), with a total of 1699.8 thousand students enrolled (6.5% fewer than in 2023/24). 2.5 thousand general secondary schools for youth educated 760.4 thousand students, most of whom were female (61.6%). However, 1.8 thousand technical secondary schools had 687.7 thousand students, most of whom were male (61.8%). 212.4 thousand students, 66.2% of whom were male, attended 1.7 thousand stage I sectoral vocational schools. 12.6 thousand pursued their education in 0.3 thousand stage II sectoral vocational schools – 12.0 thousand students in urban areas and 0.6 thousand in rural areas.

Special job-training schools are three-year schools exclusively for students with moderate and severe intellectual disability, as well as for students with multiple disabilities. Graduates of these schools obtain a certificate of special job-training. In the 2024/25 school year, 12.6 thousand students were enrolled in 0.6 thousand such schools.

General art schools leading to professional certification represent a separate group of post-primary schools. In the 2024/25 school year, 14.1 thousand students were enrolled in 0.1 thousand such schools in Poland (4.1% fewer than in the 2023/24 school year).

The majority of post-primary schools (74.6%) were operated by local government units.

In the 2023/24 school year, 320.6 thousand students graduated from post-primary schools for children and youth, of whom 157.7 thousand were female.

The general secondary school students (44.7%) and technical school students (40.5%) prevailed among the students of this type of schools in the 2024/25 school year

Table 3. Post-primary schools for youth
As of 30 September

SPECIFICATION a – 2023/24 b – 2024/25		Schools	Sections	Students		Graduates	
				total	of which females	total	of which females
Total	a	6935	76518	1818934	888209	320639	157722
	b	6945	73879	1699834	823586	•	•
Special job-training schools	a	565	3897	12483	4733	2379	910
	b	568	4050	12610	4774	•	•
Stage I sectoral vocational schools	a	1695	10259	217499	72405	46202	14744
	b	1697	10360	212415	71854	•	•
Stage II sectoral vocational schools	a	261	766	12973	3832	5716	1637
	b	252	690	12627	3798	•	•
General secondary schools	a	2449	30173	806123	501589	149344	93370
	b	2470	29025	760353	468360	•	•
Technical secondary schools	a	1858	30612	755167	293021	114821	45264
	b	1848	28943	687737	262686	•	•
General art schools ^a	a	107	811	14689	12629	2177	1797
	b	110	811	14092	12114	•	•

a Leading to professional certification.

Post-secondary schools

In the 2024/25 school year, there were 1.2 thousand post-secondary schools (33 schools fewer than in the previous school year), with a total of 245.9 thousand students enrolled (2.7 thousand more than in the previous school year), 70.3% of whom were female.

The majority of these schools were operated by private sector units (79.5%). Public schools accounted for 20.5%.

Table 4. Post-secondary schools
As of 30 September

SPECIFICATION	2023/24	2024/25
Schools	1248	1215
Sections	10130	10252
Students	243129	245869
of which females	173466	172844
Graduates	77864	•
of which females	59984	•

In the 2024/25 school year, 51.5% of post-primary school students were male

Schools for adults

In the 2024/25 school year, 0.8 thousand schools for adults operated in Poland, attended by 103.7 thousand students (a 4.4% increase on the previous school year). General secondary schools prevailed among the schools for adults, with 102.9 thousand students (99.2% of the total number of students in schools for adults). Women represented 47.0% of students in general secondary schools and 34.5% in primary schools.

In the 2024/25 school year, there were 2.6% fewer post-secondary schools in Poland and 1.1% more students than in the previous school year

Table 5. Schools for adults
As of 30 September

SPECIFICATION a – 2023/24 b – 2024/25		Schools	Sections	Students		Graduates	
				total	of which females	total	of which females
Total	a	774	3513	99326	46841	19380	9880
	b	751	3590	103731	48668	•	•
Primary schools	a	44	88	969	331	397	141
	b	40	77	850	293	•	•
General secondary schools	a	730	3 425	98 357	46 510	18983	9739
	b	711	3513	102881	48375	•	•

In the 2024/25 school year, there were 3.0% fewer schools for adults in comparison with the previous school year

Enrollment rates

Table 6. Enrollment rates in the 2024/25 school year
As of 30 September

SPECIFICATION	Age groups	Total	Males	Females
		in %		
Gross enrollment rates				
Pre-primary education	3-6	99.7	99.7	99.7
Primary schools	7-14	100.1	100.4	99.7
Stage I sectoral vocational schools ^a	15-17	18.0	23.1	12.5
General secondary schools	15-18	53.0	41.5	65.0
Technical secondary schools ^b	15-19	35.3	41.9	28.3
Post-secondary schools ^c	19-21	24.6	15.2	34.4
Net enrollment rates				
Pre-primary education	3-6	97.1	96.8	97.4
Primary schools	7-14	98.9	99.1	98.8
Stage I sectoral vocational schools ^a	15-17	14.8	19.2	10.2
General secondary schools	15-18	44.8	34.1	56.2
Technical secondary schools ^b	15-19	33.7	40.3	26.9
Post-secondary schools ^c	19-21	5.8	4.1	7.6

abc Including: a – special job-training schools, b – general art schools leading to professional certification, c – stage II sectoral vocational schools.

Teachers (in full-time equivalents)

In the 2024/25 school year in Poland, educational institutions employed a total of 511.0 thousand teachers (in full-time equivalents), 2.7% fewer than in the 2023/24 school year. Primary school teachers were the prevalent group – 51.6%. The most women were employed in pre-primary establishments (99.1%) and in primary schools (83.2%). Men were most represented among teachers in art schools (41.1%) and in stage I sectoral secondary schools (40.9%). The majority of teachers held the position of chartered teachers (56.9%).

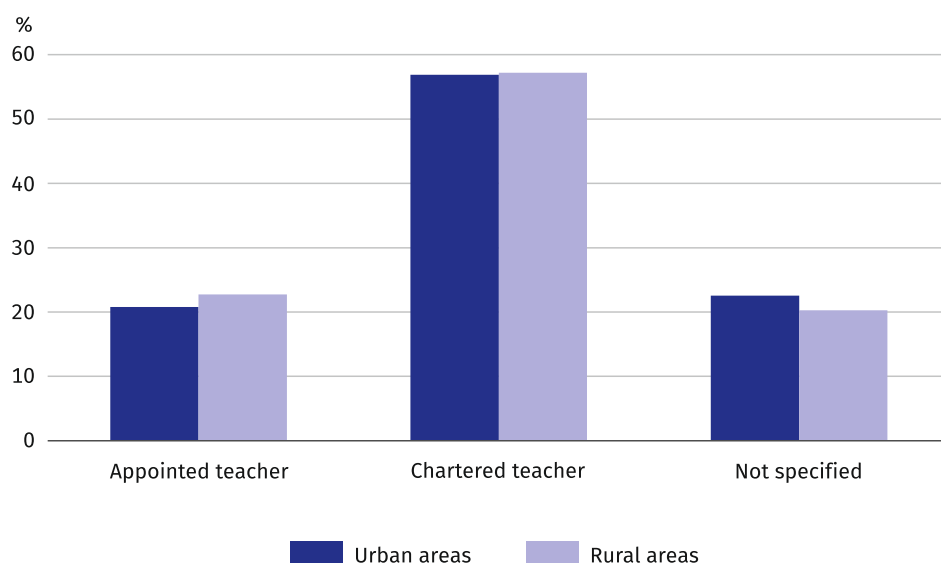
Table 7. Teachers ^a(in full-time equivalents) by type of school
As of 30 September

SPECIFICATION	2023/23	2024/25
Total	525157	511030
Pre-primary establishments	121882	107356
Primary schools	259101	263762
Stage I sectoral vocational schools	13606	13763
Stage II sectoral vocational schools	370	359
General secondary schools	55568	53992
Technical secondary schools	55947	53515
Post-secondary schools ^b	2860	2710
Art schools	10990	10718
Special job training schools	4833	4856

a Data may not sum up due to rounding.

b Including colleges of social work.

Chart 3. Full-time and part-time teachers ^a (full-time equivalents) in urban and rural areas by career advancement degree in the 2024/25 school year
As of 30 September



a Data may not sum up due to rounding.

82.2% of full-time equivalent teachers were women

In the 2024/25 school year, 71.5% of teachers worked in urban areas

The presented data are derived from the Educational Information System which operates under the Act of 15 April 2011 (Journal of Laws 2022, item 868, as amended) and is managed by the Minister responsible for school education.

The data on pupils and students are given as of 30 September and relate to the 2023/24-2024/25 school years. The data on graduates refer to the 2023/24 school year. The number of external graduates is included in the total number of graduates of schools for adults and post-secondary schools.

Pre-primary education covers children from the beginning of the school year in the calendar year when the child turns 3 until the end of the school year in the calendar year when the child reaches the age of 7. It is implemented in nursery schools, pre-primary sections in primary schools and in other forms of pre-school education (pre-primary education units and pre-primary centres). The purpose of pre-primary education is to provide children with care, support their individual development, prepare them for learning at school and implement the core curriculum.

Schools and pre-primary establishments can be public or non-public. Only public schools may be established and run by competent ministers and local government units (gminas, powiats and voivodships). Non-public schools are run by legal or natural persons on the basis of an entry in the register of non-public establishments and schools maintained by the education department of the relevant local government unit.

In this publication, schools are divided into schools for children and youth, and schools for adults, which operate according to different principles. Schools for adults admit persons aged 18 and over (including those who turn 18 in the calendar year of enrollment).

The data on teachers refer to those employed to implement compulsory educational programmes, i.e. excluding day-room staff and librarians conducting only extracurricular activities, etc. The number of teachers is given in full-time equivalents, covering both full-time and part-time teachers.

Gross enrollment rate is the ratio of the number of pupils and students at a given level of education regardless of age to the population in the age group defined as corresponding to this level of education.

Net enrollment rate is the ratio of the number of pupils and students in a given age group at a given level of education to the population in the age group defined as corresponding to this level of education.

A detailed description of the methodology concerning school education is available in the annual publication "[Education in Poland](#)", available on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.

When citing data from the Statistics Poland please provide the following information: "Statistics Poland's data". When publishing calculations made on data published by the Statistics Poland, provide the following information: "Own study based on the Statistics Poland's data".

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[Education in the 2023/2024 school year](#)

Data available in databases

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[Knowledge Databases – Education](#)

[STRATEG system – Education](#)

[Public Services Monitoring System – Education](#)

[OECD Database – Education](#)

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Terms used in official statistics

[Pre-primary education](#)

[Primary school](#)

[Post-primary school](#)

[Post-secondary school](#)

[School for adults](#)

[Gross enrollment rate](#)

[Net enrollment rate](#)

[Student](#)

[Graduate](#)

[Teacher](#)