

Higher education in Mazowieckie Voivodship in the 2025/26 academic year

14 July 2026

↓ 0.1%

Decrease in the number of students compared to the 2024/25 academic year

As of 31 December 2025, 287.8 thousand persons were studying at Masovian higher education institutions, 0.1% less than a year earlier. In 2025, 65.6 thousand graduates received their diplomas (13.7% more than in 2024). 110.9 thousand students were enrolled in postgraduate studies, and 5.3 thousand were enrolled in doctoral schools.

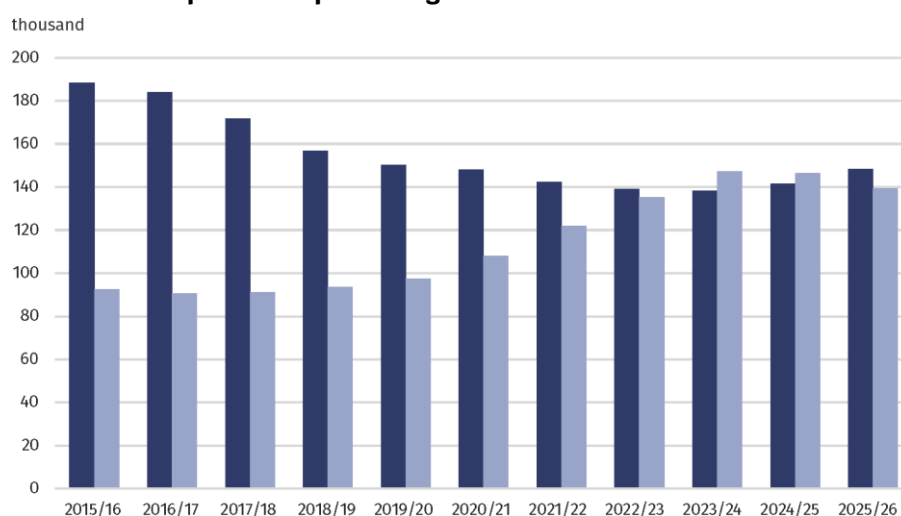
According to the POL-on register, in the 2025/26 academic year, there were 88 higher education institutions operating in Mazowieckie Voivodship (345 in Poland). This report presents data from 77 HEIs which submitted statistical reports (328 in Poland).

There were 21 public and 56 private higher education institutions in Mazowieckie Voivodship

Students

Between the 2015/16 and 2019/20 academic years, the number of students systematically decreased from 280.7 thousand to 247.5 thousand, before beginning to increase until the 2024/25 academic year, when it reached 288.0 thousand. It is worth noting that the decline in student numbers affected public higher education institutions (from 188.2 thousand in the 2015/2016 academic year to 138.4 thousand in 2023/24). During the same period, private higher education institutions recorded an increase in student enrollment from 92.6 thousand to 147.1 thousand. Starting in the 2024/25 academic year, this trend has reversed. At the end of December 2025, 287.8 thousand students were enrolled in higher education institutions, with public institutions outnumbering private ones (148.4 thousand versus 139.4 thousand). Persons studying at Masovian higher education institutions constituted 21.8% of students in the country.

Chart 1. Students^a of public and private higher education institutions

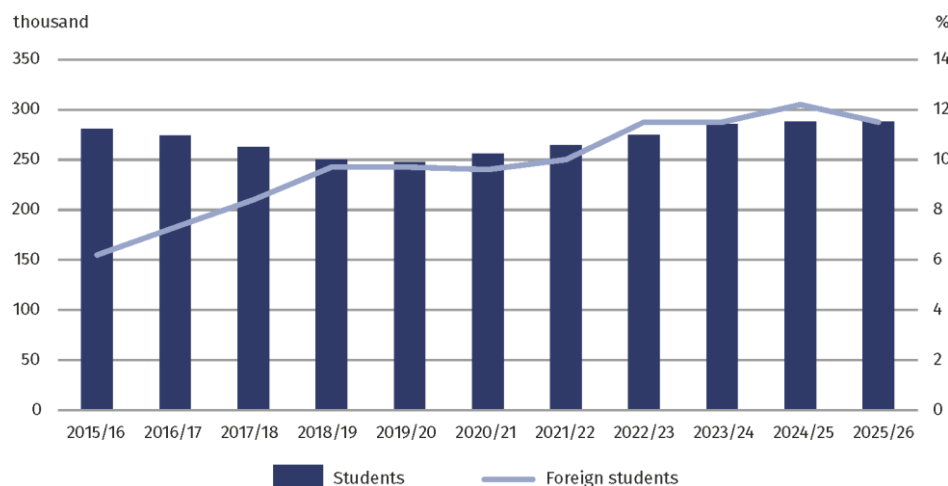


Students of higher education institutions: public private

^a As of 31 December.

Compared to the previous academic year, the number of students at higher education institutions located in Mazowieckie Voivodship was lower by 0.1%, at public and private higher education institutions by 4.8% more and by 4.8% less, respectively.

Chart 2 Students^a of higher education institutions



a As of 31 December.

In the 2025/26 academic year, the percentage of women among all students was 57.1%. Full-time programmes were chosen by 166.8 thousand students, and part-time programmes by 121.0 thousand. First-cycle programmes (engineering and bachelor's degrees) comprised 155.0 thousand students (53.9%), while second-cycle programmes comprised 58.6 thousand students (20.4%). Long-cycle master's degree programmes were chosen by 24.8% of students.

The most frequently chosen groups of fields of study included: Business, administration and law, which were studied by 23.4% of all students, Social sciences, journalism and information (20.6%), Health and welfare (11.0%) and Engineering, industry, construction (10.3%).

In the 2025/26 academic year, a total of 33.0 thousand foreigners (32.5% of all foreign students in the country) enrolled at HEIs in Mazowieckie Voivodship, compared to 35.1 thousand in the 2024/25 academic year and 17.4 thousand in 2015/16. Their share in the total number of students was 11.5%, which was 0.7 pp lower than a year earlier and 5.3 pp higher than 10 years earlier. The largest groups were from Ukraine (36.8% of all foreigners), Belarus (11.7%), and Turkey (9.0%).

First-year students constituted 25.2% of all students in the Voivodship

The percentage of foreigners at Masovian HEIs in the academic year 2025/26 was 11.5%

Table 1. Students and graduates of higher education institutions in the 2025/26 academic year

Specification	Total	Of which women	Of total numer in	
			full-time programmes	part-time programmes
Students^a	287763	164197	166804	120959
of which foreigners	33029	15988	28021	5008
In first-cycle programmes	157924	78763	101533	56391
of which with bachelor's degree	108461	65031	67127	41334
Second-cycle programmes	58615	34405	27573	31042
Long-cycle master's degree programmes	71224	51029	37698	33526
Graduates^b	65643	39885	36662	28981
of which foreigners	7217	3948	6192	1025

58.0% of students were studying full-time

a As of 31 December. b Graduates who obtained higher education diplomas in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025.

The largest academic centre in the Voivodship and in Poland is m.st. Warszawa, home to 59 higher education institutions, including the largest in the country in terms of student enrollment – the University of Warsaw. As of 31 December 2025, 260.7 thousand students studied at HEIs located in Warszawa, representing 90.6% of all students in the Voivodship and 19.7% of the total national enrollment. One in eight students at the capital city's institutions was a foreigner. Outside the capital, other major academic centres in the Voivodship included Radom, Siedlce, and Płock, which together accounted for 6.8% of the voivodship's students.

Graduates

At universities with parent institutions located in Maszowieckie Voivodship, 65.6 thousand persons (21.4% of the total number of graduates nationwide) received their higher education diplomas between 1 January and 31 December 2025, including 33.2 thousand graduates from public HEIs. The number of graduates was 3.5% lower than in the 2015/16 academic year, but increased by 13.7% compared to the previous year.

36.7 thousand persons completed full-time programmes, i.e. 55.9% of graduates

Among the total number of graduates, the majority were those with first-cycle vocational degrees (51.0% of all graduates) and second-cycle degrees (33.1%). Graduates of long-cycle master's degree programmes constituted 15.9%.

Table 2. HEI graduates by broad fields of education^a in 2025

Specification	Total	Of which	
		women	foreigners
Total	65643	39885	7217
Education	4851	3786	216
Arts and humanities	6209	4464	664
Social sciences, journalism and information	12513	8920	1363
Business, administration and law	17210	9960	3115
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	1446	818	58
Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)	3632	613	477
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	6518	2463	378
Agriculture	862	531	49
Health and welfare	6780	5584	322
Services	4612	2426	298
Individual inter-field studies	1010	320	277

^a According to the International Classification of Fields of Education (ISCED-F 2013).

Among those who completed higher education, the majority were graduates of fields related to business, administration and law (26.2%), followed by social sciences, journalism and information (19.1%) and health and welfare (10.3%).

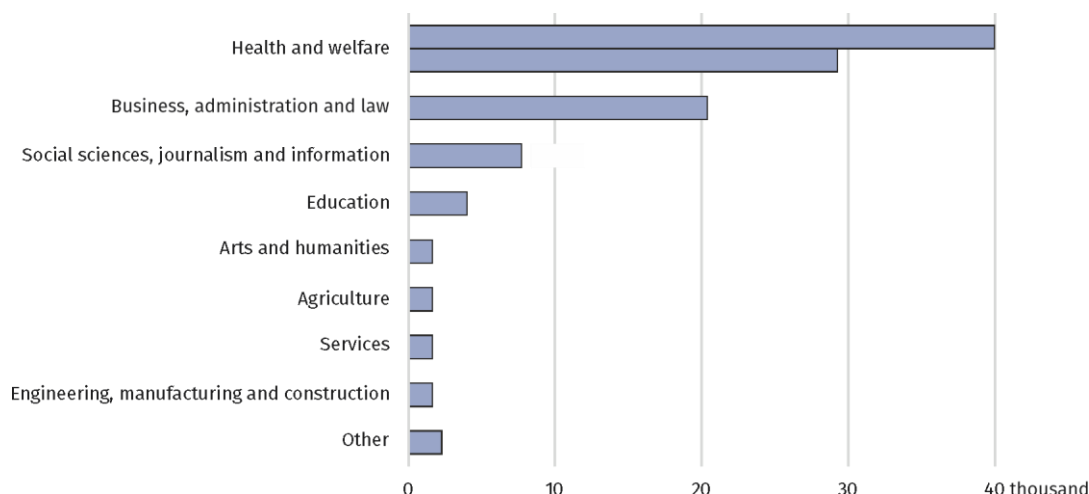
In 2025, 58.8 thousand graduates left Warsaw higher education institutions, i.e. 89.6% of all graduates in the Voivodship and 19.2% in the country.

Postgraduate and doctoral studies

As of 31 December 2025, 110.9 thousand persons were enrolled in postgraduate studies in Mazowieckie Voivodship, which is 16.4% more than in the previous year. Their share nationally was 54.9%. Women accounted for 65.6% of the total number of postgraduate students.

Nearly two-thirds of postgraduate students were women

Chart 3. Participants of postgraduate studies by fields of education^a in the 2025/26 academic year



^a According to the International Classification of Fields of Education (ISCED-F 2013).

In the 2024/25 academic year, 42.7 thousand students received certificates of completion of postgraduate studies (13.1% less than a year earlier), including 30.1 thousand women.

At the end of 2025, 5.3 thousand doctoral students were enrolled in doctoral schools, including 2.5 thousand women. In 2025, 398 persons earned doctoral degrees, 46.7% of whom were women.

Methodological notes

Students and graduates by voivodships are presented according to the seat of higher education institutions together with their branches.

Students were counted as many times as the number of programmes they were enrolled in. If a graduate completed two or more programmes in the academic year, they were also counted multiple times.

Information on foreign students in total concerns foreign students planning to study in Poland for at least one academic year.

Participants in postgraduate studies and doctoral students were presented as many times as they completed the studies.

When quoting Statistics Poland data, please provide the information: "Source of data: Statistics Poland", and when publishing calculations made on data published by Statistics Poland, please include the following disclaimer: "Own study based on figures from Statistics Poland".

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Data available in databases

[Local Data Bank – Higher education](#)

Terms used in official statistics

[Higher education student](#)
[Degree programmes](#)
[Full-time programmes](#)
[Part-time programmes](#)
[Non-degree postgraduate programmes](#)
[Doctoral student](#)
[Doctoral school](#)

