



YouthPartnership

FACTSHEET

ON SOCIAL INCLUSION/ EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

IN POLAND



YouthPartnership
Council of Europe
European Commission



c/o Council of Europe :: Directorate of Youth and Sport :: F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex, France
Fax: (33) 3 88 412 778 :: E-mail: youth-partnership@coe.int :: www.youth-partnership.net

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1) Risk of poverty

	Sources	Year	Age Range	%
At risk of poverty by age (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006	Less than 18	26,00
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: work income	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		64,00
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Unemployment benefit	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		3,50
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Family allowance	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		9,90
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		37,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		54,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		48,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		6,00
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Single parent with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		32,00
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household without dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		12,00

Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		23,00
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2) Social Subsistence/Protection

A short description of country's social protection system and list of the benefits young people are entitled to	Annex 5
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3) Equal opportunities

A description of the forms of inequality, which young people may confront in their home country (eg. gender, religion/belief, ethnic origin, disability, geographical location related inequality)	Annex 6
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ANNEX 5

SOCIAL SUBSISTENCE / PROTECTION IN POLAND

In Poland Social protection is guaranteed with many laws. Financial principles for social welfare are contributions and taxes and they are covered with public funds. (correspondent's answer; http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/2007/tables_part_6_en.pdf.) The law on social employment dated 13th of June 2003, applies in particular to the homeless, alcoholics and drug addicts, mentally disabled, long-term unemployed (+36 months), people leaving penitentiaries and refugees. The law defines a person threatened or affected by social exclusion as a person in particularly difficult living situation, who is not able to satisfy by himself/herself his/her living needs, with no right to unemployment benefit, pre-retirement allowance or benefit, social pension, disability pension or retirement pension. Social protection is guaranteed with laws and covered with public funds. Young people are entitled to family benefits, health care with no payments (up to 18 years), regular medical check ups. The financial benefits are paid if the person who has particularly difficult living situation, who is not able to satisfy himself/herself/ her living needs, with no right to unemployment benefit, preretirement allowance or benefit, social pension or retirement pension. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf.)

The financial benefits granted by within the social assistance are: social pension, permanent allowance, complementary permanent allowance, special target allowance, single maternity allowance, temporary maternity allowance, target allowance as well as the addition to the social pension, permanent allowance, complementary allowance. The entitlement of social assistance benefits is exercised by persons who are in hold of Polish citizenship and reside and stay on the territory of the Republic of Poland. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf.)

Family benefits are paid for the children under the age of 18 years. Benefits will continue until the child finishes educational school, however not after the child reaches 21 years of age. If she or he continues education at school of university and has a certificate stating a severe or moderate disability, benefits will be continued until 24 years. The monthly amounts per child depend on the age: under 5years 13€, 5–18years 17€, 18–24years 18€ (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/2007/tables_part_6_en.pdf.)

Healthcare with no payment has been taken care for students involved with higher education, children up to the age of 18 (26 for full-time students). Regular medical check-ups are maid for children.

(http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/2007/tables_part_6_en.pdf.) The access of disabled children in to the health care services is extremely difficult. Disabled children have no access to early diagnosis and adequate rehabilitation. Diagnosis of the condition of disabled children is performed too late although symptoms of disorders may be noticed earlier and are reported by worried parents. Physicians who examine children have no experience inadequately react to alarming symptoms and fail to refer children to specialists. The access to specialized medical care is difficult, because physicians are grouped in large centers and there are only few clinics. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/docs/social_inclusion/experts_reports/poland_1_2007_en.)

Handicapped child can get Medical Care Allowance until the she / he gets 16 years of age if there's a need for requiring permanent assistance from another person. Allowance will be paid for children over 16 years with a moderate disability that began at the age of entitlement to the family allowance or seriously disabled persons without age criteria. *Training and Disabled Child supplement* for covering increased spending on rehabilitation and education of a child can be paid until 16, if the child presents decision on invalidity, or between 16 and 24, if child presents a decision on severe or moderate invalidity. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/2007/tables_part_6_en.pdf.)

Sources

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/missoc/2007/tables_part_6_en.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/docs/social_inclusion/experts_reports/poland_1_2007_en

correspondent's answer

ANNEX 6

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN POLAND

The constitution of the Republic of Poland is the supreme Polish legal document and the basis of the political system in Polish State. It guarantees all Polish citizens and persons in Poland equality in many different options irrespectively of sex, race, religion, profession, origin or education. (<http://www.poland.gov.pl/State.and.Society,383.html>.)

Poverty

Poland is the country with the highest percentage of children living in poverty among the EU. In the data published by Eurostat, 29 % of children and young people under 18 lived below the poverty line. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/docs/social_inclusion/experts_reports/poland_1_2007_en.pdf)

Labour market and employment

Poland is among large European countries. It's population accounts more than 10 % of total population of the current EU. In Poland as much as 69.5% of the people working in agriculture worked as employer, or self/employed/own-account worker. In the period from January to August 1998 the non-registered work was performed by 1431 thousands persons. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf). While Poland is experiencing strong economic growth and rising labour productivity, there are complex structural problems. Poland has the most people out of work in the EU, employment rate was 2006 54,5 % (EU target 70 %). (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/esf/members/pl_en.htm.)

Unemployment

The unemployment rate of persons aged 15-24 in 2002 was 43.7%. To compare the youth unemployment rate in other candidate countries was: in Czech Republic 15,4% and in Hungary 11,2%. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf.)

Grey economy traditionally offers the relatively big number of jobs for persons with low vocational qualifications, which is probably connected with low pay. For a part of population with low qualifications the non-registered jobs are only opportunity to get any gainful employment, being often the only source of maintenance. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf.)

Education

Poland has low level in education of the population. The unemployment rate of young people is significant high and Poland has the most people out of work in the EU (correspondents answer). Poland has made significant progress in increasing the level of education of the population. In 1970 half of the inhabitants of Poland had only primary or lower education, in 2002 this was the case for 31% of the population. In the same period the percentage of persons with higher education grew from 2% to 10.2%. 57% of working women have graduated from at least general secondary schools, 43% of the male workforce has only basic vocational school education. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf.)

Religion

Families living in the small towns and rural areas are relatively more often affected by poverty. Inhabitants of large urban agglomerations are less often affected. The most difficult situation was observed among households located in rural area, without own farm and supporting family from employment related sources of income, other than pensions. (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf.)

Sources

<http://www.poland.gov.pl/State.and.Society,383.html>

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/spsi/docs/social_inclusion/experts_reports/poland_1_2007_en.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/data/document/cip2pl_en.pdf

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/esf/membrs/pl_en.htm