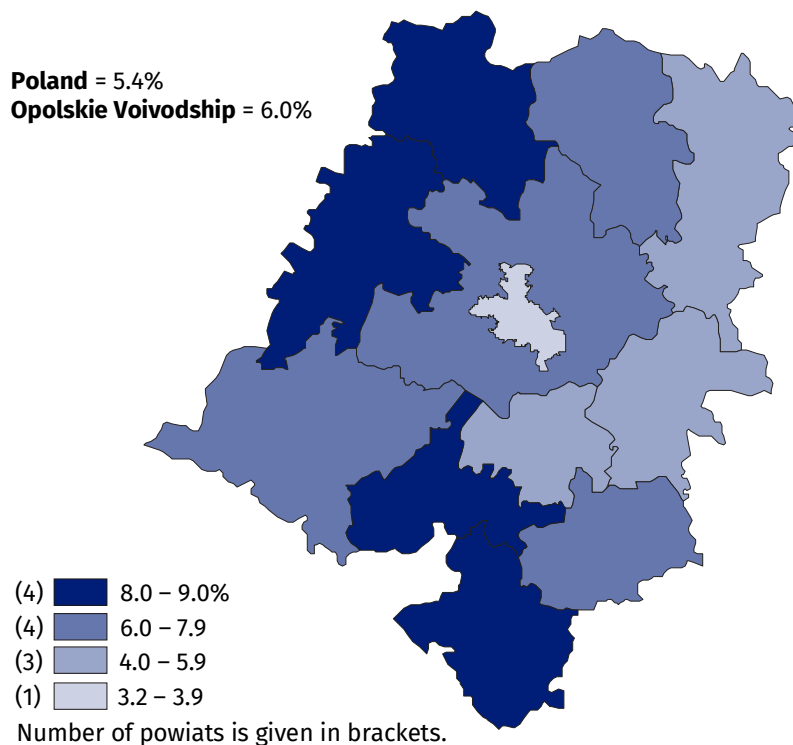


At the end of 2021, in Opolskie Voivodship, the registered unemployment rate was at the level of 6.0%, i.e. by 0.9 percentage point lower than in the previous year, and by 7.6 percentage points compared to 2010. In the country, the registered unemployment rate amounted to 5.4% and was lower in relation to both 2020 and 2010 (respectively: by 0.9 percentage point and by 7.0 percentage points). In terms of unemployment rate, Opolskie Voivodship was ranked 9th in the country at the end of 2021. Wielkopolskie Voivodship held the highest position with an unemployment rate of 3.1%.

In 2021, the unemployment rate continued to vary widely across particular powiats. The spread of the unemployment rate at the end of December 2021 was 5.8 percentage points and decreased on a yearly basis by 1.0 percentage point. Powiats with the highest unemployment rates were: Głubczycki (9.0%), Namysłowski (8.6%) and Prudnicki (8.5%). The unemployment rate lower than voivodship's average was observed in four Powiats, i.e. the city of Opole (3.2%), Oleski (4.0%), Strzelecki (4.2%) and Krapkowicki (5.3%).

A decrease in the unemployment rate, on a yearly basis, occurred in almost all powiats of Opolskie Voivodship. The highest one was recorded in Głubczycki Powiat (by 1.6 percentage point), and then in the following Powiats: Kluczborski, Nyski and Opolski (1.3 percentage point each). Only in Namysłowski Powiat the registered unemployment rate remained at the level of December 2020.

Map 1. Registered unemployment rate in 2021
as of 31 December

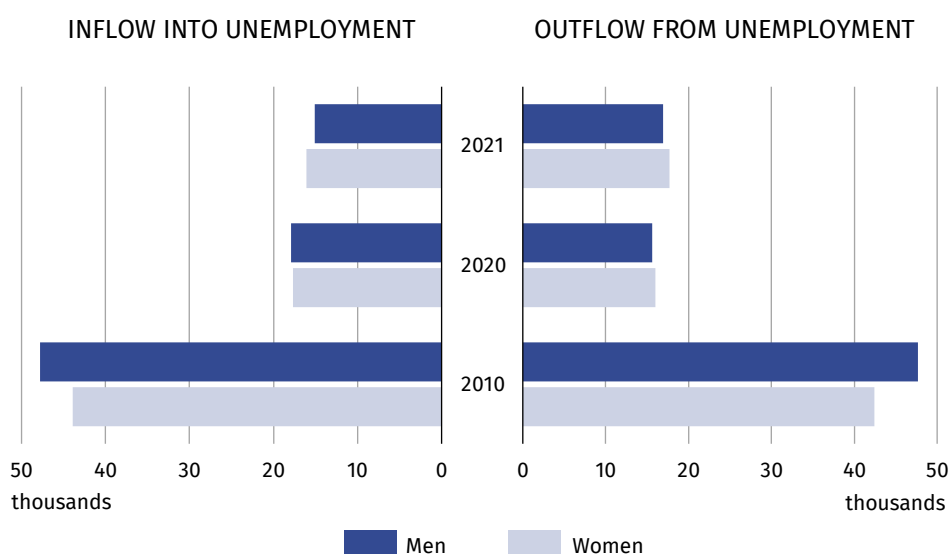


Unemployment turnover

In Opolskie Voivodship, in 2021, the balance of unemployed persons was beneficial; that is, more by 3.4 thousand persons were removed from the registers, during the year, than were registered. In 2021, in powiat labour offices of Opolskie Voivodship 31.2 thousand persons were registered and, at the same time, 34.6 thousand unemployed persons were removed from the registers. The number of persons who obtained the status of the unemployed decreased by 12.5% compared to 2020, and by 66.0% in relation to 2010. The number of deregistered unemployed persons with reference to 2020 increased by 9.6%, and compared to 2010 decreased by 61.6%.

Balance of the unemployed in 2021 was favourable

Chart 2. Unemployed persons newly registered and removed

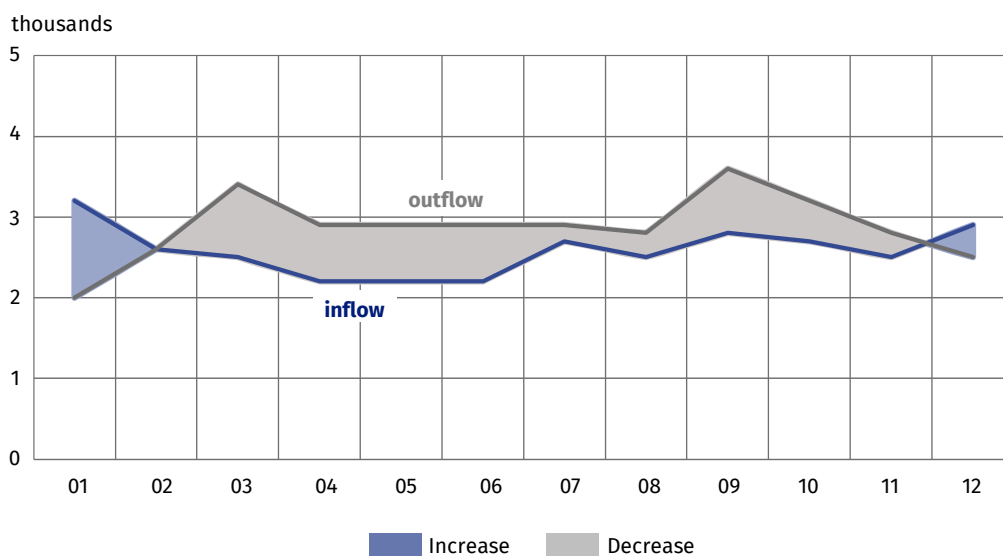


Among newly registered unemployed in 2021, women accounted for 51.6% and their share increased by 1.8 percentage point in relation to 2020. The majority, that is, 80.5% of the newly registered unemployed were re-entrants. Their number, in comparison with 2020, decreased by 11.7%. A significant group among the newly registered unemployed were previously employed persons – 90.2% (in 2020 – 91.0%).

In 2021, women accounted for 51.0% of deregistered unemployed persons (the year before – 50.7%). Still, the main reason for the loss of the unemployed status was taking up employment which concerned 60.2% (in 2020 – 62.9%) of the total number of deregistered unemployed persons. 20.8 thousand people found employment in 2021, i.e. by 4.9% more than in the previous year. The second most frequent reason was lack of confirmation of the availability for work. For this reason, 3.6 thousand people were removed from the registers, which represented 10.5% (in 2020 – 8.8%) of all deregistered persons. As a result of starting the traineeship in 2021, 2.9 thousand unemployed persons were deregistered and 1.4 thousand people voluntarily resigned from their unemployment status (in 2020, respectively: 2.8 and 1.2 thousand people).

The number of unemployed persons newly registered and removed from the registers of powiat labour offices varied between months. The highest number of new unemployment registrations in 2021 occurred in January (3.2 thousand) and the lowest in June (2.2 thousand). On the other hand, the largest number of deregistered unemployed persons was in September (3.6 thousand) and the smallest in January (2.0 thousand).

Chart 3. Rotation of registered unemployed persons in 2021



The labour market turnover index which expresses as a percentage the ratio of the number of unemployed persons taking up work in a given reporting period to the number of newly registered unemployed persons, in 2021 was 66.9% against 55.8 % in 2020. The highest level of the index was recorded in Strzelecki Powiat (75.9%) and the lowest in Głubczycki Powiat (59.6%). Compared to 2020, the labour market turnover index increased in all powiats, the most, by 16.2 percentage points in the city of Opole.

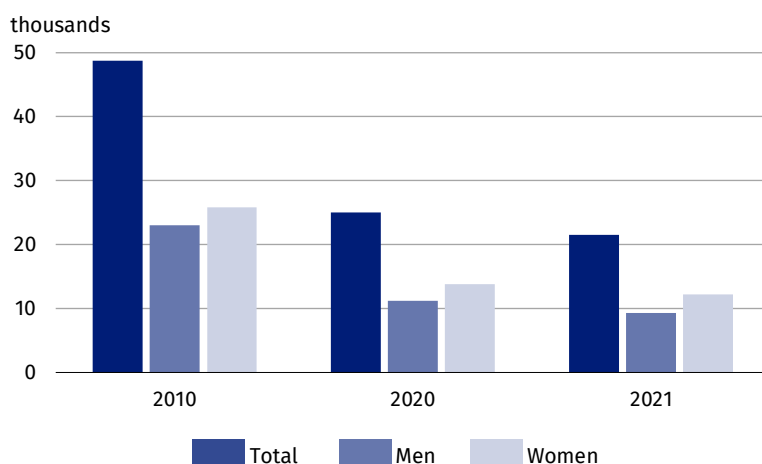
In 2021, the labour market turnover index was higher than in previous year

Demographic and social characteristics of unemployed persons

Similarly to previous years, women still predominated among the unemployed, accounting for 56.7% at the end of 2021 (in country – 53.8%). The share of women in the total number of the unemployed increased by 1.4 percentage point compared to 2020 and by 3.8 percentage points in relation to 2010. At the end of 2021, there were 131 unemployed women per 100 unemployed men (the year before – 124 and in 2010 – 112).

More than a half of the registered unemployed were women

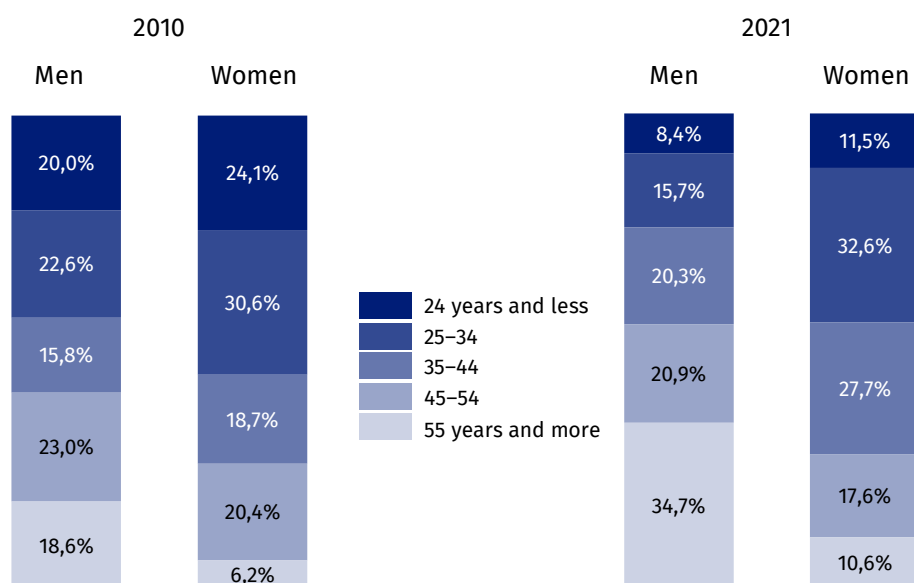
Chart 4. Registered unemployed persons by sex as of 31 December



Persons in the age group 25-34 years found themselves in the most difficult situation on the labour market in Opolskie Voivodship. Their number, at the end of 2021 amounted to 5.4 thousand, which constituted 25.3% (in 2020 – 26.5%, in 2010 – 26.8%) of all the unemployed. The number of unemployed persons in the analysed age group decreased by 17.6% in comparison with 2020 and by 58.3% in relation to 2010. The least numerous group of unemployed were persons in the age group up to 24 years. Their number at the end of 2021 amounted to 2.2 thousand, i.e. fewer by 23.6% than the year before, and by 79.8% compared to December 2010.

Persons in the age group of 25-34 years were in the most difficult situation on the labour market

Chart 5. Structure of registered unemployed persons by sex and age as of 31 December



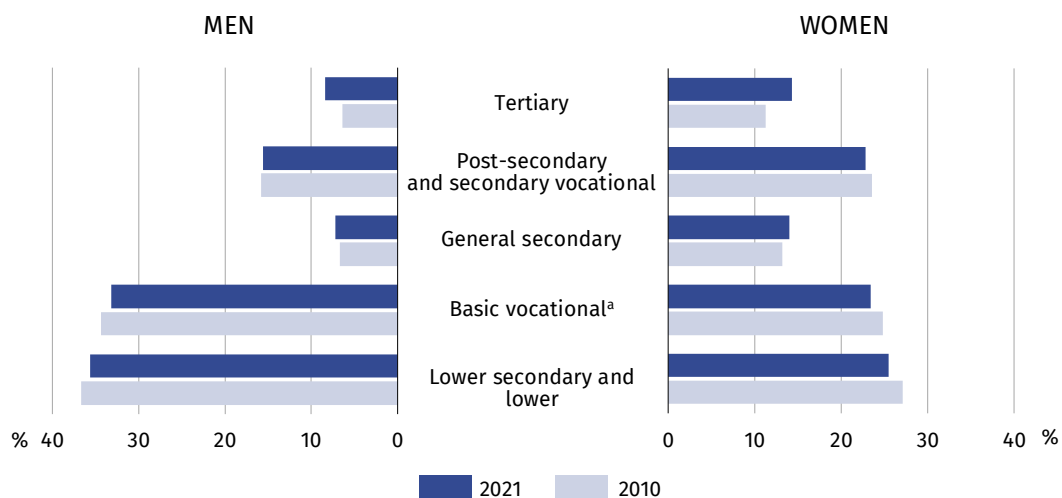
Among unemployed men, persons aged 45 and more accounted for 55.6%, while the corresponding percentage for women amounted to 28.2% (in 2020 respectively: 51.9% and 27.3%).

At the end of 2021, the majority of unemployed persons registered in powiat labour offices were persons with a relatively low education level. The most numerous group among the unemployed included persons with lower secondary or less education as well as basic vocational or basic sectoral vocational education. Their number at the end of 2021 amounted to 12.4 thousand which constituted 57.5% of all the unemployed (in 2020 – 57.2% and in 2010 – 61.0%). The number of the unemployed with the analysed education decreased by 13.2% in relation to 2020 and by 58.3% compared to 2010. The lowest number of unemployed persons concerned those with general secondary education. At the end of 2021, their number amounted to 2.4 thousand and decreased by 13.1% in relation to 2020 and by 51.9% compared to 2010. The unemployed with general secondary education accounted for 11.1% of total number of unemployed persons, i.e. by 0.1. percentage point more than a year before and by 1.0 percentage point in comparison with 2010.

The most numerous group among the registered unemployed were persons with lower secondary or less education and basic vocational or basic sectoral vocational education

Among unemployed women, persons with tertiary, vocational secondary (including post-secondary) and general secondary education accounted for 51.1% (the year earlier – 51.7%). The corresponding percentage for men was 31.2% (in 2020 – 31.8 %).

Chart 6. Structure of registered unemployed persons by sex and level of education
as of 31 December



^a In 2021, basic sectoral vocational education included.

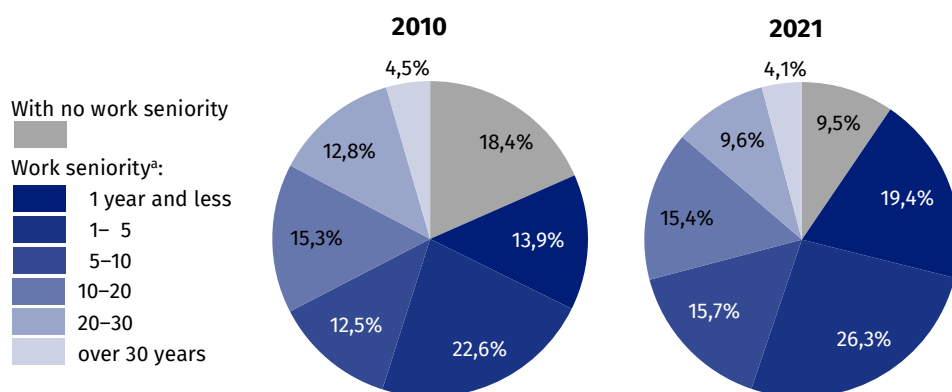
At the end of December 2021, registered unemployed persons in Opolskie Voivodship’s powiat labour offices were predominantly persons previously in employment. Their share amounted to 90.5%. The number of unemployed persons previously in employment amounted to 19.5 thousand and was by 13.2% smaller than a year before and by 51.0% in comparison with 2010.

Most of the registered unemployed were persons previously in employment

In terms of work seniority, the most numerous group of the unemployed were persons with work seniority ranging from 1 to 5 years, i.e. 26.3% of the total number of unemployed persons. Over a half (64.9%) of these persons were women. The number of unemployed persons with the discussed work seniority decreased by 14.8% compared to 2020 and by 48.7% in relation to 2010. Still, the least numerous group of the unemployed were persons, who had a work seniority more than 30 years, and their share amounted to 4.1%. The number of these persons decreased in comparison with the previous year by 17.8% and by 60.0% in relation to 2010.

Persons with no work seniority were at a disadvantageous situation on the labour market. By the end of 2021 their percentage amounted to 9.5%, a year before – 10.1% and in 2010 – 18.4%. The number of the unemployed with no work seniority decreased by 18.8% compared to 2020 and by 77.3% in relation to 2010.

Chart 7. Structure of registered unemployed persons by work seniority
as of 31 December

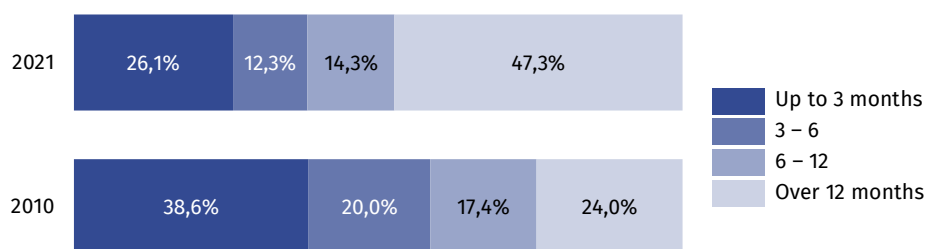


^a The class intervals were shifted upward, e.g. the class 1–5 years includes persons who worked 1 year and 1 day to full 5 years.

As of the end of 2021, the number of persons seeking employment for over 12 months amounted to 10.2 thousand and was by 4.9% higher than a year before, and by 13.0% lower than in 2010. The share of the analysed group in the total number of the unemployed, on an annual basis, increased by 8.4 percentage points and at the end of 2021 amounted to 47.3%. Still, over a half (61.5%) of unemployed persons in this group were women.

Over 1/3 of the registered unemployed were persons unemployed for more than 12 months

Chart 8. Structure of registered unemployed persons by duration of unemployment^a
as of 31 December



^a From the date of registering in a labour office; the class intervals were shifted upward, e.g. the class 3–6 months includes persons remaining unemployed from 3 months and 1-day to full 6 months.

In Opolskie Voivodship, majority of the unemployed did not have rights to unemployment benefit, and at the end of December 2021, they amounted to 19.0 thousand persons, i.e. by 12.3% fewer than in 2020 and by 54.6% in relation to 2010. At the end of 2021, the share of persons which were not entitled to unemployment benefit in the total number of the unemployed amounted to 88.3% and was higher by 1.6 percentage point than a year before and by 2.5 percentage points than in 2010. At the end of 2021, for every 100 people registered in Opolskie Voivodship's powiat labour offices, 12 unemployed persons received an unemployment benefit.

Most of the registered unemployed were not entitled to unemployment benefit

More than a half (56.4%) of the unemployed with no entitlement to benefit were women. Among the total number of unemployed persons who did not qualify for unemployment benefit, 64.2% were long-term unemployed, 29.6% – unemployed over 50 years of age and 10.8% were the unemployed below 25 years of age.

At the end of 2021, the number of unemployed persons living in rural areas amounted to 9.8 thousand, i.e. 45.3% of the total number of the registered unemployed in the voivodship. The number of the unemployed living in rural areas decreased by 12.0% compared to 2020 and by 55.1% in relation to 2010. During the January – December 2021 period, 13.7 thousand unemployed persons living in rural areas had been registered, i.e. 44.1% (in 2020 – 43.8%) of the total number of the unemployed who had been registered during the entire year. In this period, 15.1 thousand unemployed rural residents were withdrawn from powiat labour office registers, which constituted 43.6% (in 2020 – 44.2%) of the total deregistered unemployed persons in the voivodship. Due to taking up work, 9.1 thousand of the unemployed living in rural areas were removed from unemployment registers, i.e. 43.8% of the total unemployed persons deregistered due to that reason in the voivodship.

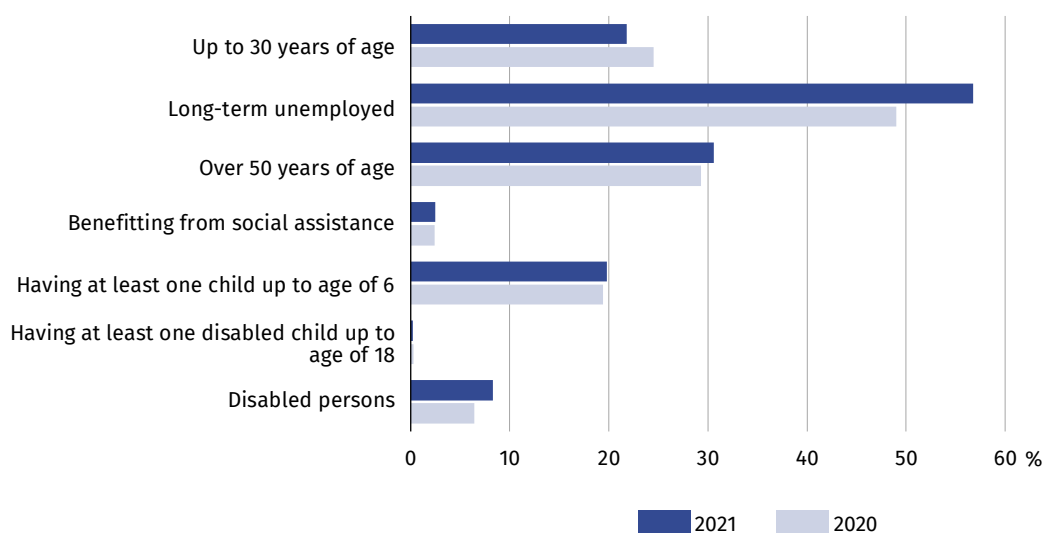
Unemployed persons with a specific situation on the labour market

Among the registered unemployed, categories of persons with a specific situation on the labour market were distinguished. These include, among others, the long-term unemployed, who, at the end of 2021 accounted for 56.8% of the total number of the unemployed (in 2020 – 49.0%). At the end of 2021, there were 12.2 thousand long-term unemployed persons recorded and their number remained at the level of December 2020. The group that is in

Long-term unemployed persons were more than a half of the registered unemployed

a particularly difficult situation on the labour market also includes the unemployed over 50 years of age. At the end of 2021, there were 6.6 thousand of them and constituted 30.6% of the total number of the unemployed. Compared to previous year, the number of the unemployed over 50 years of age decreased by 0.7 thousand, i.e. by 10.1%. The analysed group of the unemployed also includes persons below 30 years of age, their number at the end of 2021 amounted to 4.7 thousand, i.e. 23.1% less than in 2020.

Chart 9. Share of registered unemployed persons with a specific situation on the labour market as of 31 December



Job offers

In 2021, 35.3 thousand job offers were submitted to powiat labour offices, i.e. by 12.9% more than in the previous year and by 8.6% fewer in comparison with 2010. Majority (87.6%) of offers came from private sector employers. Among all the offers, 9.6% (in 2020 – 10.6%) concerned traineeship and 3.6% (a year earlier – 3.9%) social utility works. 2.0% (in 2020 – 1.7%) of job offers were intended for disabled persons.

Powiat labour offices had more job offers than a year before

Chart 10. Job offers and registered unemployed persons per one job^a offer in 2021



^a As of the end of a month.

The highest number of job offers were submitted in the city of Opole (9.4 thousand) and in Opolski Powiat (3.9 thousand) and the lowest one in Głubczycki Powiat (0.8 thousand), Oleski (1.3 thousand) and Prudnicki (1.5 thousand).

At the end of December 2021, 1.7 thousand jobs were vacant, which means that per one not taken job offer there were 12 unemployed persons compared to 16 – in 2020 and 46 – in 2010.

Labour Fund expenses

The basic instrument of economic mitigation of the effects of unemployment is the Labour Fund from which PLN 220.7 million was spent in 2021, i.e. less by 50.3% than in 2020 and by 13.0% compared to 2010. The most resources from the Labour Fund, in the voivodship, were spent on employment promotion programmes (36.3%) and on benefits for the unemployed (22.3%) on which PLN 80.1 million and 49.1 PLN million, respectively, were allocated.

Most of the means from the Labour Fund were allocated on the implementation of employment promotion programmes

* * *

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Terms used in official statistics

[Inflow to unemployment in reporting period](#)

[Outflow from unemployment in reporting period](#)

[Registered unemployed persons](#)

[The long term unemployed](#)

[Job offer](#)

[Registered unemployment rate](#)