

Economic Activity of Population in Opolskie Voivodship in the 1st quarter of 2024

Preliminary results of Labour Force Survey in the 1st quarter of 2024

27 June 2024

57.2%

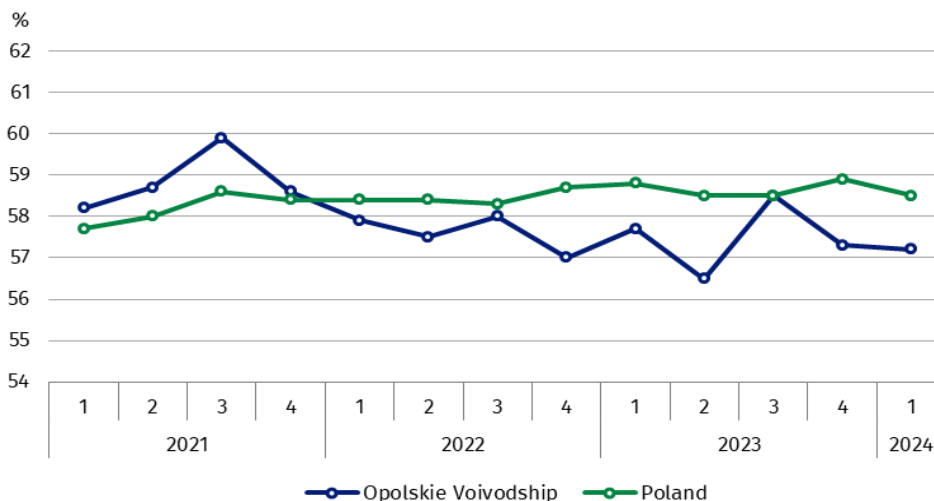
Economic activity rate of persons in the age group 15–89 years in Opolskie Voivodship

The results of Labour Force Survey (LFS), presenting average data for quarter, showed that in the 1st quarter of 2024 in Opolskie Voivodship, economically active persons accounted for 57.2% of population in the age group 15–89 years. The value of this indicator decreased by 0.1 percentage point compared to the previous quarter and by 0.5 percentage point in comparison with the 1st quarter of 2023.

Economic activity of population

The number of population in the age group 15–89 years in Opolskie Voivodship in the 1st quarter of 2024 amounted to 747 thousand persons and it decreased both on quarterly basis as well as in comparison with the corresponding periods of 2023 and 2021 (by 0.3%, and 0.5% and by 2.2%, respectively). Population of economically active accounted for 427 thousand persons (of which 411 thousand employed persons and 16 thousand unemployed persons). The number of economically inactive persons amounted to 320 thousand persons. The population of economically active persons in the 1st quarter of 2024 decreased by 2 thousand, i.e. by 0.5% compared with the previous quarter and in relation to the corresponding quarters of 2023 and 2021, respectively: by 6 thousand., i.e. by 1.4% and by 18 thousand., i.e. by 4.0%. Activity rate in the age group 15–89 years in Opolskie Voivodship in the 1st quarter of 2024 was at the level of 57.2% and its value decreased both on a quarterly basis (by 0.1 percentage point), as well as compared to the corresponding periods of 2023 and 2021 (by 0.5 percentage point and by 1.0 percentage point, respectively).

Chart 1. Activity rate in the age group 15–89 years by quarters



The share of economically active persons in the total number of population in the age group 15–89 years in the 1st quarter 2024 was higher among men and amounted to 64.1%, however among women it was at the level of 50.6%. Considering the place of residence, the discussed rate was higher among rural inhabitants than urban ones (61.0% versus 53.9%).

Taking age groups into account, there was a diverse level of economic stability. The highest value of activity rate in Opolskie Voivodship occurred in the case of persons in the age group 35–44 years (93.3%) and was on the higher level (by 4.6 percentage points) than in the previous quarter as well as (by 4.9 percentage points) compared with the 1st quarter of 2023. The lowest value of activity rate was recorded for persons in the age group 55–89 years (24.2%), and its value decreased both on a quarterly basis as well as on annual basis (by 3.2 percentage points and by 2.0 percentage points, respectively).

For working age population the measure in question in the 1st quarter of 2024 amounted to 83.4% and its value increased by 1.4 percentage points compared to the previous quarter and by 1.5 percentage points compared to the first 1st quarter of 2023 (in the country – 81.6% and decrease by 0.2 percentage points on a quarterly basis, and an increase by 0.5 percentage point in relation to the 1st quarter of 2023).

Considering education level, the highest value of activity rate occurred for persons with a tertiary education (80.9%) and increased on a quarterly and annual basis (by 2.5 percentage points as well as 2.8 percentage points). This rate was the lowest (17.0%) among persons with lower secondary, primary, incomplete primary and no school education and was higher than in the previous quarter (by 3.1 percentage points), however lower compared to the 1st quarter 2023 (by 4.4 percentage points).

The indicator describing relations of the number of not working persons (unemployed in the age group 15–74 years and economically inactive in the age group 15–89 years) to the number of employed persons (in the age group 15–89 years) increased on a quarterly basis, as well as compared with the 1st quarter of 2023 and 2021. In Opolskie Voivodship in the 1st quarter of 2024 per 1000 working persons there were 818 not working persons (in the 4th quarter of 2023 – 781, in the 1st quarter of 2023 – 792, and in the 1st quarter of 2021 – 781). In the country this ratio amounted to 765 (in the 4th quarter of 2023 – 753, in the 1st quarter 2023 – 752, and in the 1st quarter of 2021 – 807).

Employed persons

In the 1st quarter of 2024 in Opolskie Voivodship the population of employed persons in the age group 15–89 years amounted to 411 thousand persons and decreased by 2.4% (i.e. by 10 thousand persons) compared to the previous quarter as well as by 1.9% (i.e. by 8 thousand persons) on an annual basis. Compared to the 1st quarter of 2021 there was a decrease in the number of discussed population by 4.2% (i.e. by 18 thousand persons).

In the structure of employed persons by sex, over a half were men, whose share amounted to 53.8% (i.e. 221 thousand persons), and by place of residence – urban inhabitants (50.1%, i.e. 206 thousand persons).

Including the division by sex, on a quarterly and annual basis, there was a decrease both in the number of working men (3.1% each) as well as women (by 1.6% and by 0.5%, respectively).

Considering place of residence, both on a quarterly basis, as well as compared to the 1st quarter of 2023 there was a decrease in the population of working urban inhabitants (by 5.5% and by 6.4%, respectively), with the simultaneous increase in the number of working rural inhabitants (by 1.0% and by 3.5%).

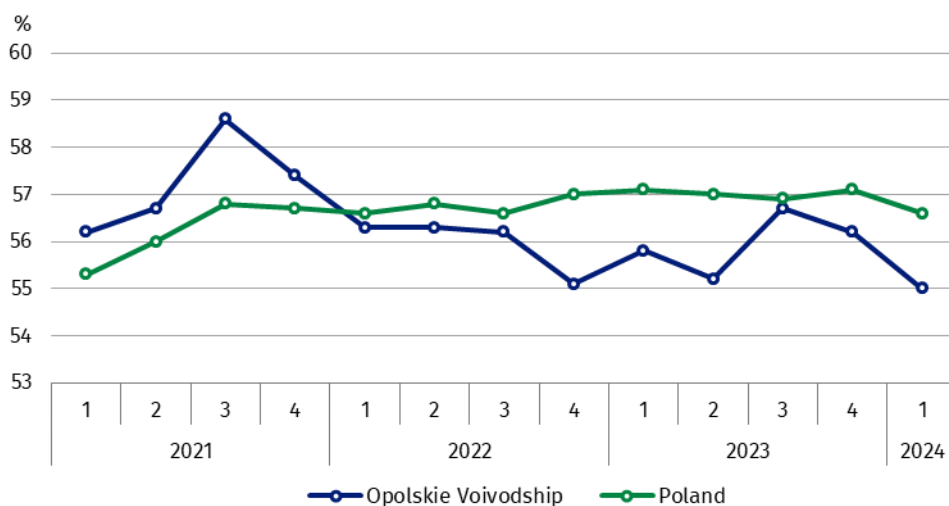
Taking into account the age of employed persons, in the 1st quarter of 2024 the largest share among working persons was noted for the age group 35–44 years – 29.4%, i.e. more by 0.2 percentage point compared to the previous quarter and by 2.4 percentage point

in comparison with the 1st quarter of 2023. The lowest rate was noted for working persons in the age group 15–24 years (4.9% – lower by 0.1 percentage point on a quarterly basis and by 1.3 percentage points on an annual basis). Working age population in the 1st quarter of 2024 accounted for 96.1% of the total number of working persons (in the 4th quarter of 2023 – 95.5%, and in the 1st quarter of 2023 – 95.2%).

In the structure of employed persons by the level of education, in the 1st quarter of 2024 the largest share concerned persons with the tertiary education (38.0% – increase by 3.8 percentage points in relations to the 4th quarter of 2023 and by 5.1 percentage points compared with the 1st quarter of 2023), while the lowest share concerned persons with lower secondary, primary, incomplete primary and no school education (3.9% – increase by 0.6 percentage point on a quarterly basis and a decrease by 1.8 percentage points on an annual basis).

The value of employment rate in the 1st quarter of 2024 in Opolskie Voivodship amounted to 55.0% (in the country – 56.6%) and decreased both in relation to the previous quarter as well as to the corresponding periods of 2023 and 2021, respectively: by 1.2 percentage points, by 0.8 percentage point and by 1.2 percentage points.

Chart 2. Employment rate in the age group 15–89 by quarters



Analysing population by sex, higher rate in the voivodship occurred among men (61.6% versus 48.8% for women), and when considering place of residence among rural inhabitants (59.2% versus 51.4% for urban inhabitants).

Considering the division by sex, compared to the 4th quarter of 2023 the value of employment rate decreased both among men (by 1.9 percentage points), as well as among women (by 0.8 percentage points), and compared with the 1st quarter of 2023 there was a decrease among men (by 1.6 percentage points), however among women it remained on the similar level.

Considering the place of residency, both on an quarterly and annual basis, the employment rate decreased among urban inhabitants (by 2.8 percentage points and by 3.1 percentage points, respectively), and increased for rural inhabitants (by 0,5 percentage point and by 2.1 percentage points).

The employment rate for working age population in the voivodship amounted to 80.1% (in the country – 78.9%). The value of this indicator decreased by 0.3 percentage points compared to the 4th quarter of 2023, however increased by 0.9 percentage point compared with the 1st quarter of 2023 (in the country by 0.3 percentage point and by 0.2 percentage point, respectively).

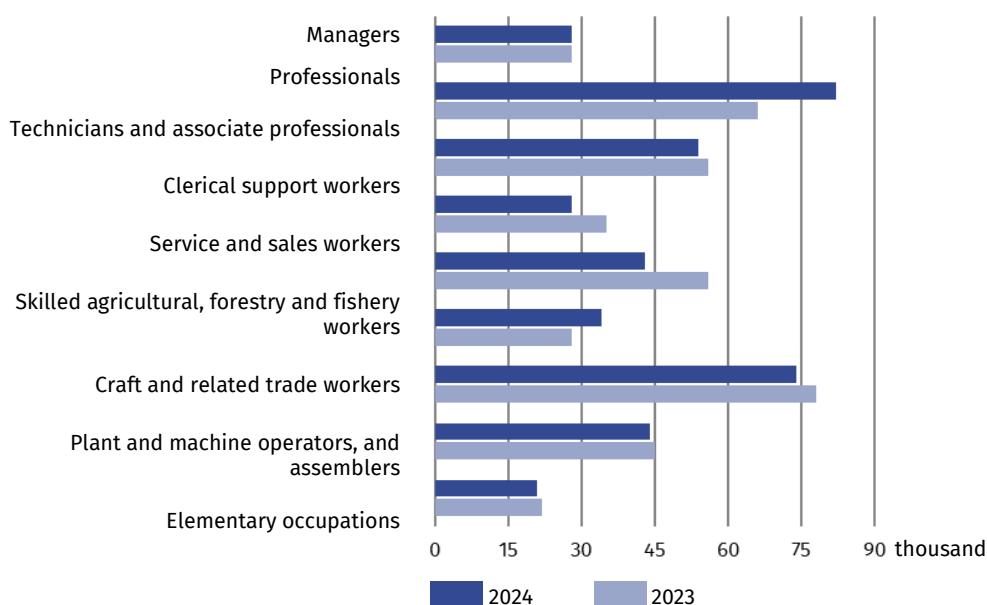
Employment rate was still significantly higher in the population of men than of women

Over the quarter, among the total number of employed persons in Opolskie Voivodship, there was an decrease in the share of employees employed in a public company/institution or by private employer – respectively: by 1.7 percentage point and by 2.8 percentage points to the level of 78.8% (i.e. 324 thousand persons), at the simultaneous increase in the share of self-employed persons, respectively: by 1.2 percentage point and by 2,3 percentage points to the level of 20.0% (i.e. 82 thousand persons).

A vast majority of persons employed in public companies/institutions or by a private employer performed their work on the basis of a contract for unlimited duration – 84.9% (i.e. 276 thousand persons). This share increased (by 1.1 percentage points) compared to the previous quarter as well as (by 3.0 percentage points) in comparison with the 1st quarter of 2023.

The largest percentage of employees in the 1st quarter of 2024 concerned persons who, during a reference week, worked in the main job for 40 hours and more (76.2%, i.e. more by 8.3 percentage points than in the 4th quarter of 2023, however less by 2.3 percentage points compared to the 1st quarter of 2023). In the analysed group over a half (58.8%) were men; urban residents also had a larger share (52.1%). A percentage of employed persons working part-time was at the level of 8.8% for group of persons, who worked 30–39 hours during a week and 5.8% for group working 20 to 29 hours. Out of surveyed persons 2.9% worked less than 20 hours a week.

Chart 3. Employed persons in the age group 15–89 by selected occupational groups in the 1st quarter



In the 1st quarter of 2024 the most persons worked in the profession from the group of professionals (82 thousand) and accounted for 20.0% of the total number of employed persons. Among women the percentage for the said group amounted to 25.8% and was higher by 0.4 percentage point than in the previous quarter and by 2.2 percentage points compared to the 1st quarter of 2023. The group of service and sales workers also had a meaningful share in the population of women – 18.4% (the percentage increased by 0.3 percentage point compared to the previous quarter, however it decreased by 3.6 percentage points on an annual basis). Among men the most persons worked in the profession group of craft and related trade workers (28.1% – decrease by 1.7 percentage points compared to the previous quarter and by 2.2 percentage points in relation to the 1st quarter of 2023), and then in the professional group plant and machine operators, and assemblers (17.6% – increase by 1.8 percentage points on a quarterly basis and by 0.5 percentage point on an annual basis).

Unemployed persons

In the 1st quarter of 2024 the number of unemployed persons aged 15-74 in Opolskie Voivodship amounted to 16 thousand, of which over a half were urban inhabitants – 62.5%.

Unemployed persons in the 1st quarter of 2024 accounted to 3.7% (in the country – 3.1%) of the working age population in the age group 15–89 years.

The average time of job seeking in the said period in Opolskie Voivodship amounted to 9.1 month and was longer than in the country (7.8 month).

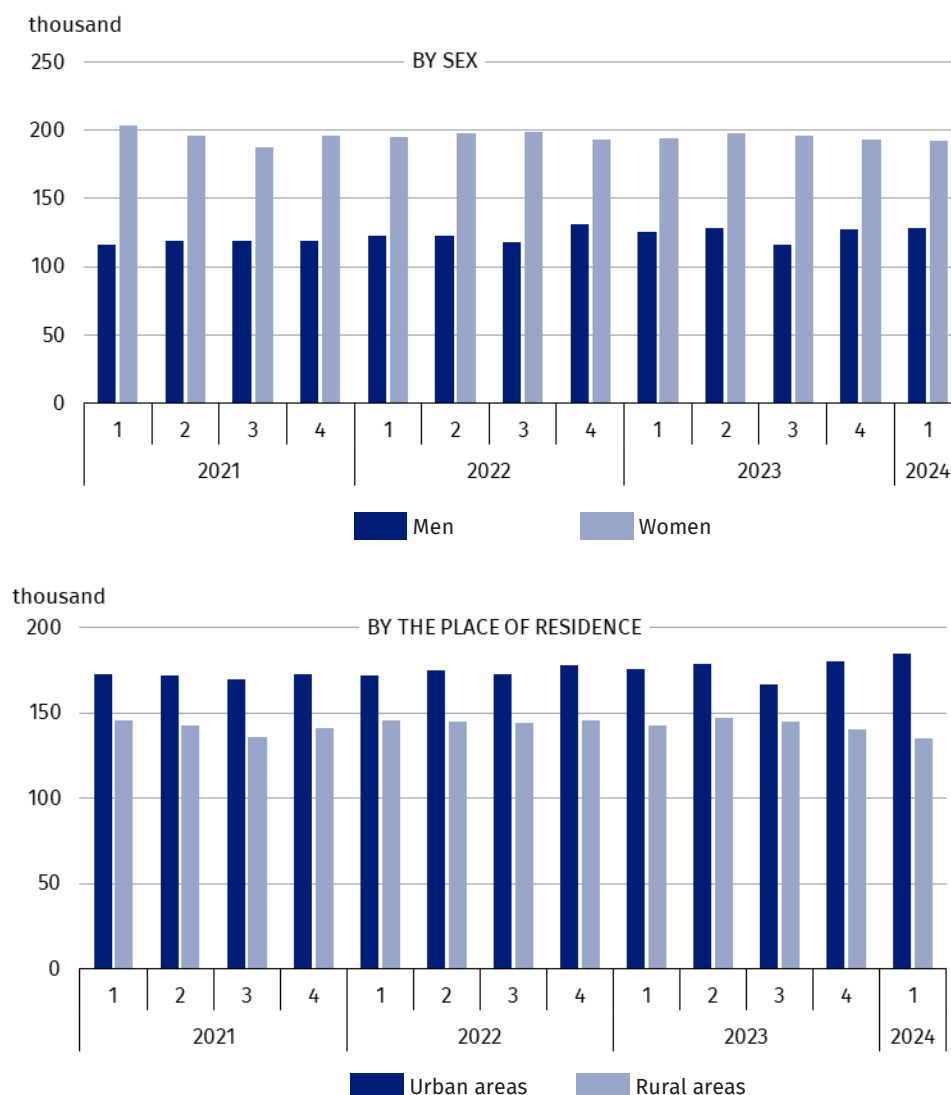
Economically inactive persons

Population of economically inactive persons aged 15–89 years in the 1st quarter of 2024 in Opolskie Voivodship amounted to 320 thousand persons, i.e. 42.8% of the total population in the said age group (versus 41.5% – in the country). The analysed group, in comparison with the previous quarter, did not change, however it increased compared to the 1st quarter of 2023 and 2021 by 0.6% and 0.3%, respectively.

Over a half of economically inactive population were women – 60.0%, i.e. 192 thousand. Considering the place of residence, urban inhabitants constituted 57.8% of this group (i.e. 185 thousand persons).

Over a half of economically inactive persons were women

Chart 4. Economically inactive persons in the age group 15–89 years by sex, place of residence and quarters



According to sex, both on a quarterly and annual basis, the number of economically inactive persons increased among men (by 0.8% and by 2.4%, respectively), while for women there was a decrease (of 0.5% and of 1.0%).

Considering the place of residence, on a quarterly and annual basis there was an increase in the number of economically inactive persons among urban inhabitants (by 2.8% and by 5.1%, respectively), however a decrease for rural inhabitants (by 3.6% and 5.6%).

Of the total number of economically inactive in the voivodship, 82 thousand persons, i.e. 25.6% were in the working age. Economically inactive persons mostly had lower secondary, primary, incomplete primary or no school education (27.5%) as well as basic vocational and basic sectoral vocational education (27.2%).

The main reason for the inactivity of economically inactive persons in the age group 15–74 years (for this group the reason of inactivity was determined) amounting to 260 thousand was retirement – 56.2%. Among persons receiving pension 63.0% were women.

Education and training were the reasons for work inactivity and not seeking job in the 1st quarter of 2024 for 21.9% of economically inactive persons. Illness and disability as a reason for economic stability was reported by 8.8% persons while family and household responsibilities – 5.8% of persons from the said age group.

Table 1. Economic activity of the population aged 15-89 in Opolskie Voivodship on the background of the country

SPECIFICATION	2021	2023		2024
		1st quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter
POLAND				
Economically active in thousand	17639	17852	17870	17754
employed	16928	17332	17323	17194
unemployed ^a	711	520	547	559
Economically inactive in thousand	12955	12513	12492	12600
Activity rate in %	57.7	58.8	58.9	58.5
Employment rate in %	55.3	57.1	57.1	56.6
Unemployment rate in %	4.0	2.9	3.1	3.1
OPOLSKIE VOIVODSHIP				
Economically active in thousand	445	433	429	427
employed	429	419	421	411
unemployed ^a	16	14	.	16
Economically inactive in thousand	319	318	320	320
Activity rate in %	58.2	57.7	57.3	57.2
Employment rate in %	56.2	55.8	56.2	55.0
Unemployment rate in %	3.6	3.2	.	3.7

a People aged 15-74 years.

Table 2. Activity rate in the age group 15-89 by sex, place of residence and age groups

SPECIFICATION	2021	2023		2024
		1st quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter
		in %		
TOTAL	58.2	57.7	57.3	57.2
of which at working age ^a	81.9	81.9	82.0	83.4
men	68.4	65.4	64.9	64.1
women	48.9	50.4	50.6	50.6
Urban areas	58.1	56.7	55.5	53.9
Rural areas	58.4	58.8	59.5	61.0
By age:				
15-24 years	34.9	37.0	29.6	27.2
25-34	87.2	93.8	90.6	87.3
35-44	89.1	88.4	88.7	93.3
45-54	88.7	88.7	85.5	91.5
55-89 years	25.3	26.2	27.4	24.2

a Men aged 18-64 years; women aged 18-59 years.

Table 3. Employment rate in the age group 15-89 by sex, place of residence and age groups

SPECIFICATION	2021	2023		2024
		1st quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter
	in %			
TOTAL	56.2	55.8	56.2	55.0
of which at working age ^a	78.9	79.2	80.4	80.1
men	66.8	63.2	63.5	61.6
women	46.3	48.8	49.6	48.8
Urban areas	55.4	54.5	54.2	51.4
Rural areas	57.0	57.1	58.7	59.2
By age:				
15-24 years	31.3	32.1	25.9	24.7
25-34	82.9	88.5	88.5	82.4
35-44	86.9	87.6	87.2	90.3
45-54	86.5	86.1	84.7	89.1
55-89 years	24.6	25.6	27.1	23.8

a Men aged 18-64; women aged 18-59 years.

Note. LFS results refer to the population residing or intending to stay in the country for at least 12 months, living in households. Data collected in representative survey for the 3 quarter of 2023 have been generalised to general population with the use of data on population from the balanced based on the results of National Population and Housing Census 2011. From the 4th quarter of 2023 to generalise the results to the general population, data on the resident population from the balance sheets compiled on the basis of the results of the National Population and Housing Census 2021 were used. Data for the period from the 1st quarter of 2021 to the 3rd quarter of 2023 have been recalculated in accordance with the new basis for generalizing results, and are therefore comparable.

In the study, the sums of components may differ from the "total" value, which is the result of rounding made when generalising the survey results. Due to the representative survey method, caution is recommended in the use of data in those cases where more detailed divisions are used and there are low-order numbers (less than 20 thousand). Numbers which, after generalising the results from the sample, are below 10 thousand have been replaced with a dot ("."), which means that a specific value cannot be shown due to a random sample error.

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Prepared by:
Statistical Office in Opole

Acting Director Renata Wasilewska
Phone: 77 453 14 52

Issued:
Opolski Centre for Regional Surveys

Hanna Sterniuk-Mościcka
Phone: 514 901 001
e-mail: H.Sterniuk-Moscicka@stat.gov.pl

Media management:

Monika Bartel

Phone: 77 423 09 75

e-mail: M.Bartel@stat.gov.pl



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[Employed, unemployed and economically inactive persons \(preliminary LFS results\) - the first quarter of 2024](#)

Data available in databases

[Local Data Bank](#) -> Labour Market

Terms used in official statistic

[Economic activity by LFS](#)

[Activity rate by LFS](#)

[Employment rate by LFS](#)

[Unemployment rate by LFS](#)