

27 September 2022

Size and structure of the population as well as number of buildings and dwellings in Opolskie Voivodship – final results of the National Population and Housing Census 2021

 **6.1%**

Decrease in the number of population compared to the results of the National Population and Housing Census 2011

 **4.9%**

Increase in the number of dwellings compared to the results of the National Population and Housing Census 2011

According to the final results of the National Population and Housing Census 2021, the population in Opolskie Voivodship amounted to 954.1 thousand people and compared to the results of 2011 census it decreased by 6.1%. There were 186.2 thousand buildings in the voivodship, in which there were 361.0 thousand dwellings. In relation to 2011, their number increased by 6.2% and by 4.9%, respectively.

Introduction

The National Population and Housing Census (NSP) was carried out on the territory of Poland during the period of 1 April to 30 September 2021, as of the state on 31 March 2021.

Since 1 January 2017, in Opolskie Voivodship, the area of territorial division units has changed, as a result of the inclusion of parts of the territory of the following gminas from Opolski powiat to the city of Opole: Dąbrowa, Dobrzeń Wielki, Komprachcice and Prószków. This fact may be reflected in illustrating changes in the number of population as well as dwellings and buildings.

Size and structure of the population

According to the final results of the National Population and Housing Census 2021, 954.1 thousand people lived in Opolskie Voivodship on 31 March 2021 (51.6% of the population was female and 48.4% was male), i.e. 2.5% of the population in the country. In the years 2011-2021 the number of total population decreased by 62.1 thousand (by 6.1%, with an average decrease of 1.2% in the country).

Over the decade, the population of Opolskie Voivodship decreased by 62.1 thousand

Table 1. Population

Specification	2011		2021		2011=100
	in thousands	in %	in thousands	in %	
Total	1016.2	100.0	954.1	100.0	93.9
Urban areas	532.2	52.4	507.3	53.2	95.3
Rural areas	484.0	47.6	446.9	46.8	92.3
Men	491.3	48.3	461.5	48.4	93.9
Women	524.9	51.7	492.6	51.6	93.9

In 2021, the share of inhabitants of urban areas in total population accounted for 53.2%, while of rural areas – 46.8% (on average in the country: 59.8% and 40.2%, respectively). In relation to 2011, a decrease in the number of population was observed both in urban and rural areas, wherein the largest loss affected inhabitants of rural areas (7.7% versus 4.7% in urban ones). On average in the country, the population in urban areas decreased by 2.8%, with an increase of 1.2% in population of rural areas which is mostly caused by the process of suburbanisation.

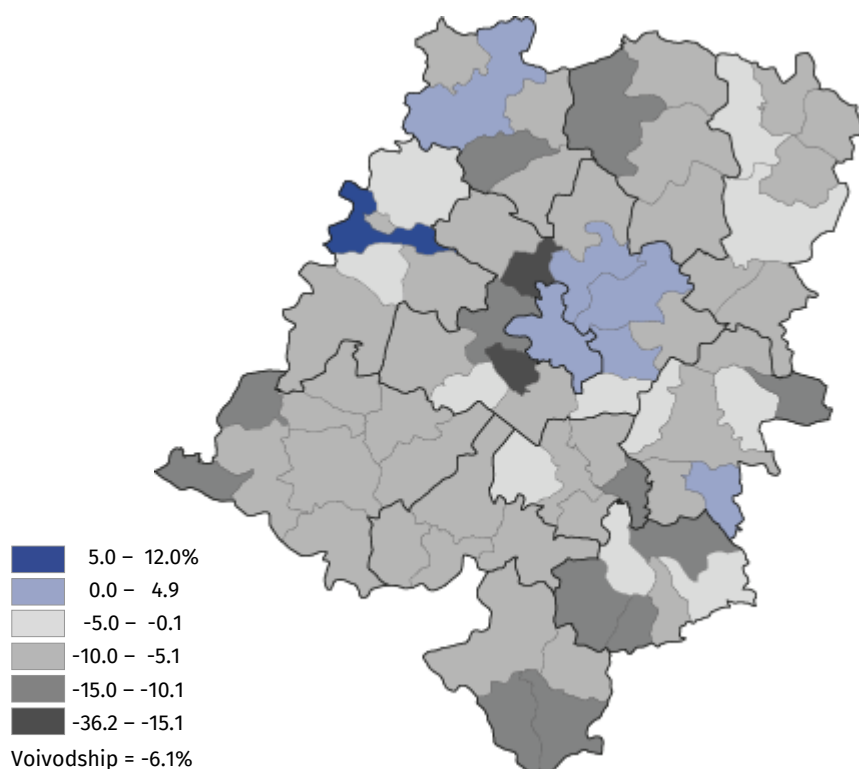
The largest gmina in terms of number of population in 2021 was Opole with 127.4 thousand inhabitants (13.4% of the total population of the voivodship). Compared to the previous census it has recorded the largest growth in the number of population (of 4.8 thousand persons). The next ones in terms of population were gminas: Kędzierzyn-Koźle with 56.9 thousand persons (6.0% of the total voivodship population) and Nysa with 55.2 thousand persons (5.8%). In both mentioned gminas, compared to 2011, a decrease in the number of population was recorded, of 7.2 thousand and of 3.5 thousand, respectively.

The least populated gminas were Świerczów with 3.1 thousand persons and Kamiennik with 3.3 thousand persons (0.3% of the total population of the voivodship, each). Compared to 2011, the number of population in these gminas decreased by 0.5 thousand, each.

In the years 2011–2021 in most gminas a decrease in the number of population was recorded. The number of population decreased in the greatest extent in gminas: Dobrzeń Wielki (by 36.2%), Komprachcice (by 15.8%) and Dąbrowa (by 14.3%). On the other hand an increase in the number of population occurred in seven gminas, of which the largest in: Skarbimierz (of 12.0%), Łubniany (of 4.8%) and Chrzastowice (of 4.4%). The scale of population number changes in individual gminas is determined by the course of basic demographic processes related to vital and migration statistics. Directions and intensity of migration are a kind of indicators of attractiveness of particular gminas as places to live, starting a family, work, study etc.

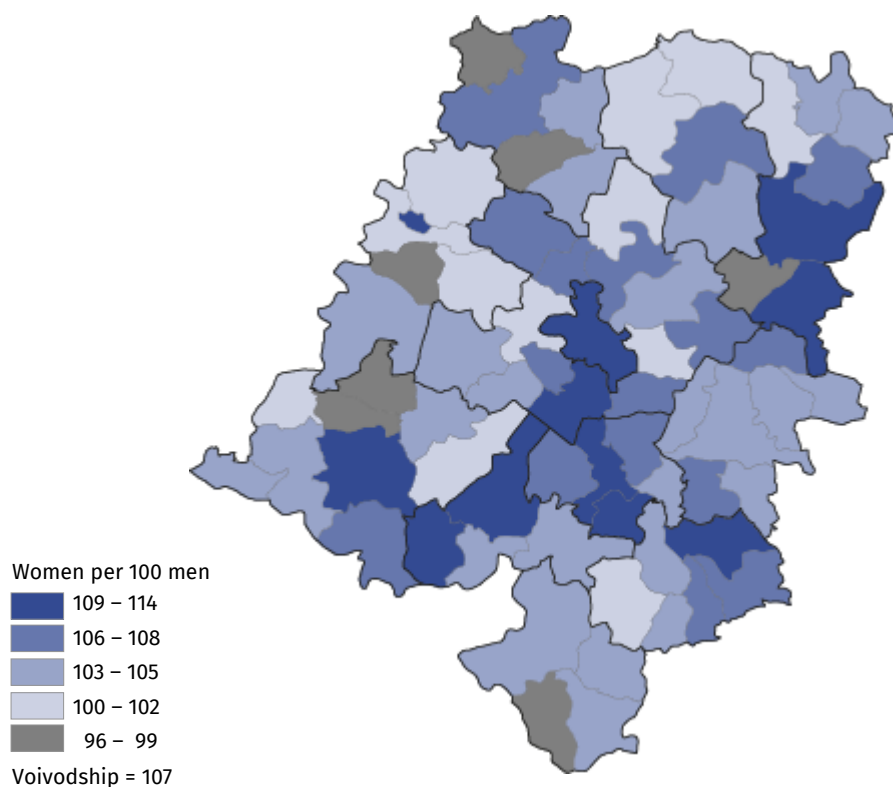
The largest gmina in terms of population number is Opole, and the smallest – Świerczów

Map 1. Change in the number of population in the years 2011-2021



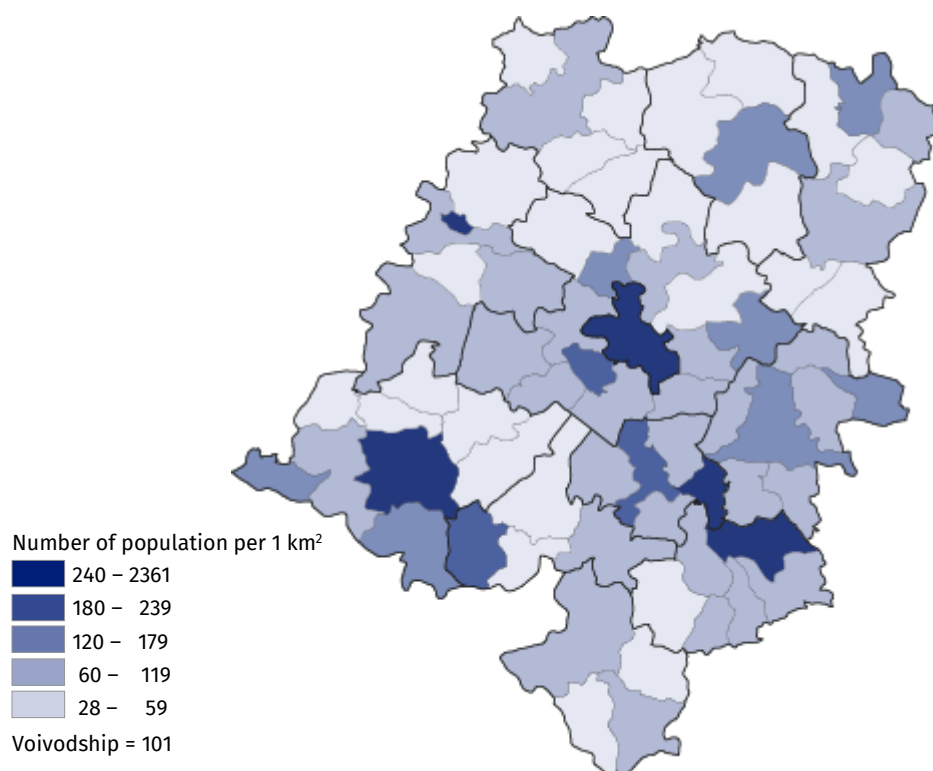
In relation to 2011, the number of women was lower by 32.3 thousand and number of men – by 29.8 thousand. In the inter – census period proportions by sex did not change in the population structure. Feminisation rate remained at the 2011 level – there were 107 women per 100 men, similarly as in the country. In 2021, the most women per 100 men were recorded in gminas: Opole (114), as well as Brzeg and Kędzierzyn-Koźle (110 each), and the least in: Zębowice (96), Wilków and Świerczów (97 each). The most favourable situation, expressed by the feminisation rate in the range of 99-101 (which proves that the number of women and men is very similar) occurred in gminas: Wołczyn, Skarbimierz, Lubsza, Byczyna, Skoroszyce, Branice and Olszanka.

Map 2. Feminisation rate in 2021



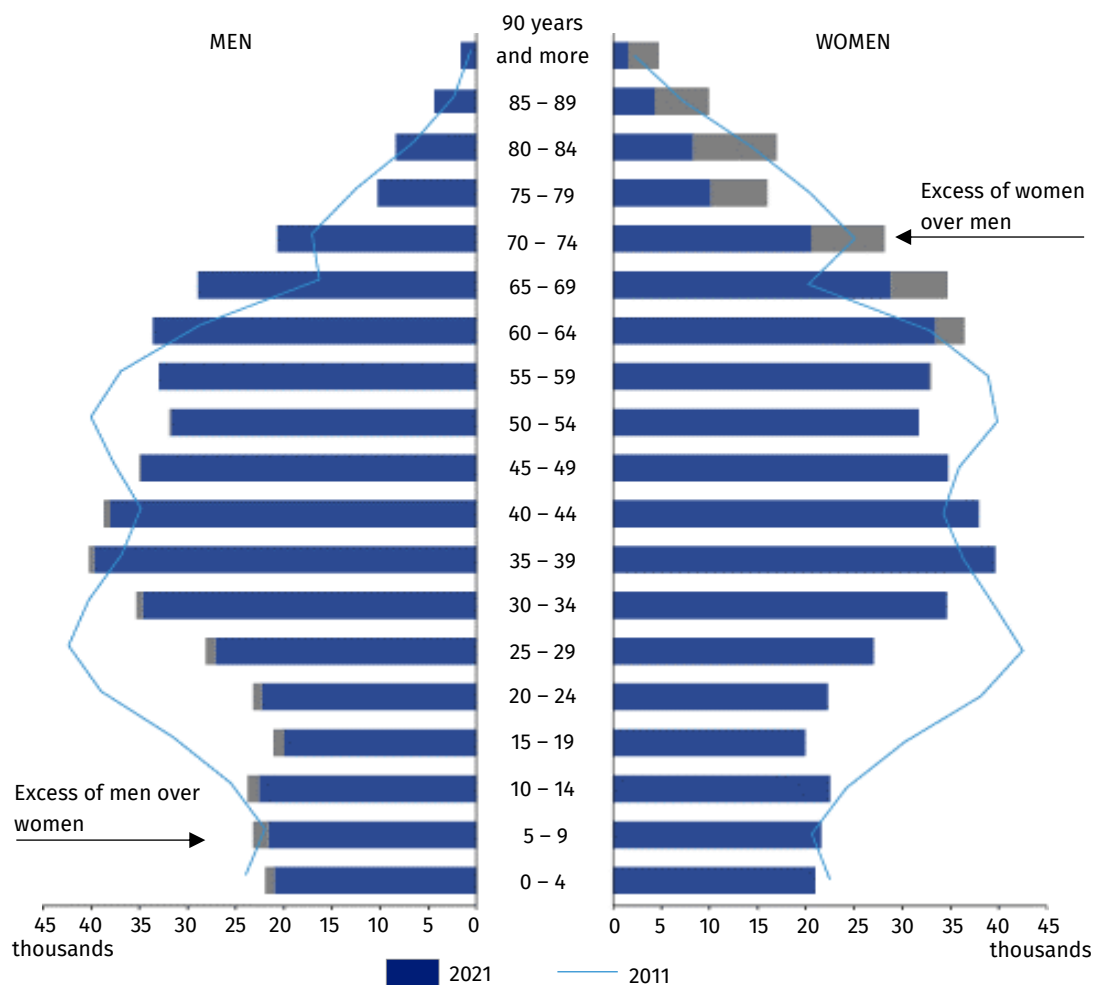
Density of population, measured by the number of persons per 1 km² amounted to 101 persons, with an average in the country – 122 persons (in 2011 there were 108 and 123 persons, respectively). Gminas with the highest density of population were urban gminas: Brzeg (2361 persons), Opole (856) and Kędzierzyn-Koźle (460). The smallest number of persons per 1km² were recorded in following rural gminas: Świerczów (28) as well as Domaszowice and Lasowice Wielkie (31 each).

Map 3. Population density in 2021



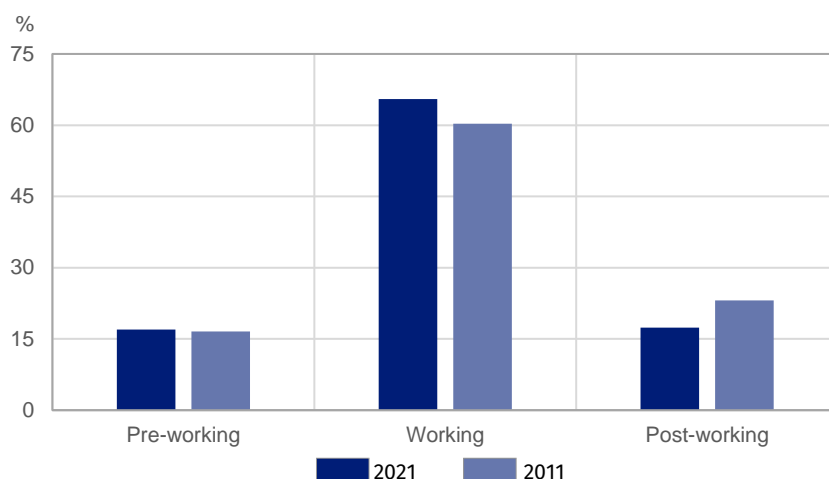
In relation to 2011, the age structure of the population has changed significantly. The detailed population structure according to individual years with visibly marked two demographic booms from the mid of the 50s and the turn of 70s and 80s of the last century is shown by population pyramid. A pyramid picturing demographically developing society should have a solid foundation. Meanwhile, the pyramid showing the structure of population age in 2021 significantly deviates from classical pattern, due to a much narrower foundation, being a result of decreasing birth number.

Chart 1. Population by sex and age



Results of 2021 census indicate large changes in the population structure by economic age groups. In relation to 2011, percentage of population of pre-working age decreased (from 17.0% in 2011 to 16.6% in 2021), as well as of working age (from 65.5% to 60.3%). On the other hand, share of the population of post-working age visibly increased (from 17.4% to 23.1%). Relations between particular age groups are becoming less and less favourable. In 2021 there were 53 persons of non-working age per 100 persons of working age, of which 26 persons of pre-working age and 27 persons of post-working age (on average in the country: 55, 29 and 26). In 2021, age dependency ratio increased to 66, which was a consequence of visibly higher dependency ratio of the population of post-working age – 38, with a slightly higher dependency ratio of the population of pre-working age – 27 (on average in the country: 69, 38 and 31, respectively).

Chart 2. Population by economic age groups



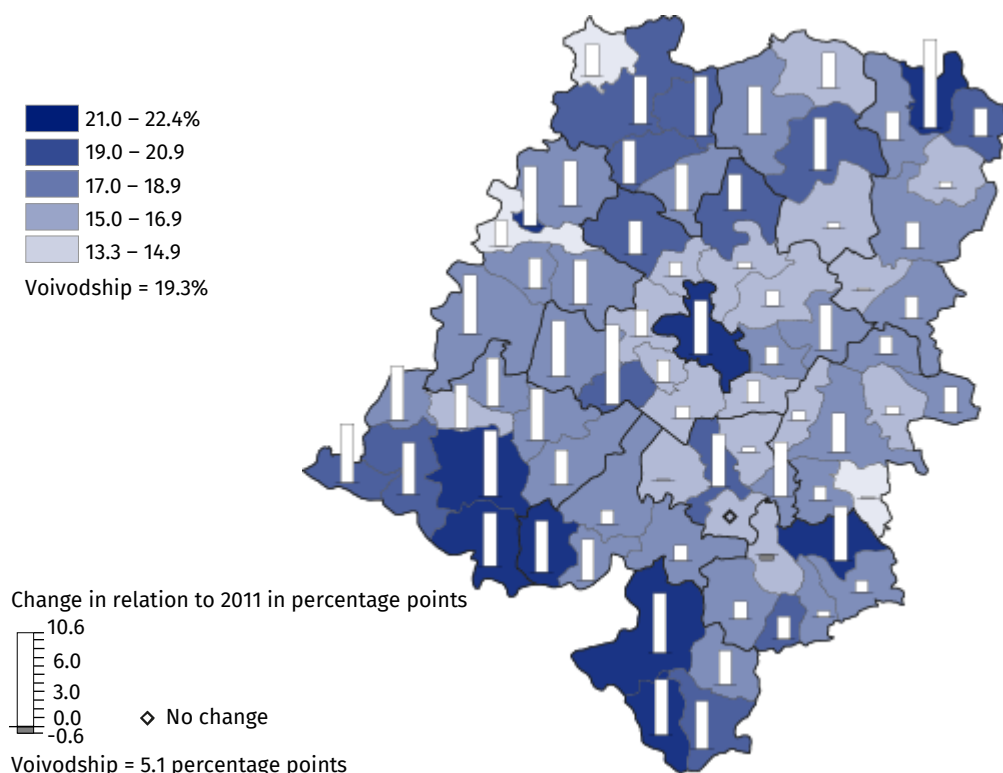
In the years 2011-2021 significant changes were also observed in the structure of population by biological age groups. There was a decrease in the share of persons aged 15-64 (of 5.5 percentage points), with a simultaneous increase in the share of persons aged 65 and more (of 5.1 percentage points).

Unfavourable changes in the structure of population age, with increasing life expectancy determine the process of society ageing. The basic measures describing advancement of this process consist of, i.a. demographic rate of ageing (share of persons 65 years old and more in the total number of population) as well as ageing ratio (the number of persons 65 years old and more per 100 persons aged 0-14 years).

In 2021 nearly every 5th inhabitant of Opolskie Voivodship was 65 years old or more (19.3% versus 14.2% in 2011). On average in the country the share of persons aged 65 and more in the total number of population was on the lower level (18.6% versus 13.6%). Demographic rate of ageing in the territorial division by gminas amounted to 13.3% (Skarbimierz) up to 22.4% (Praszka). Compared to 2011, the share of persons aged 65 and more increased the most in gminas: Praszka (by 10.6 percentage points), Tułowie (by 9.5 percentage points) and Nysa (by 7.9 percentage points). A decrease in the ratio was observed in gmina Reńska Wieś (by 0.6 percentage point).

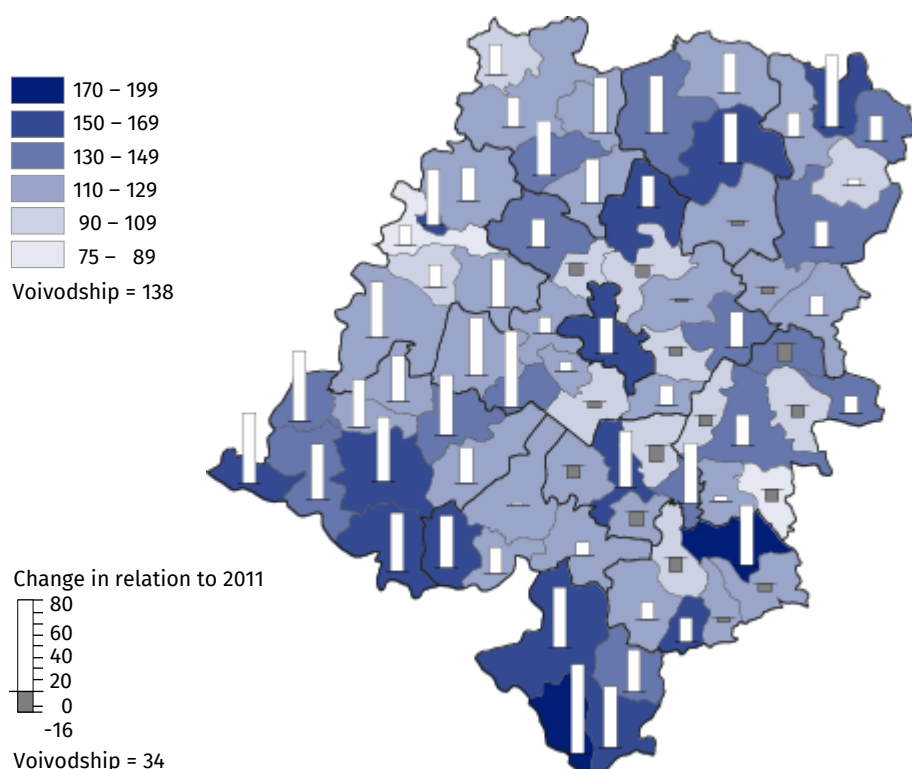
In 2021, nearly every 5th person in Opolskie Voivodship was aged 65 and more

Map 4. Share of persons aged 65 and more in the total number of population in 2021



Ageing ratio, showing the relation between generation of grandparents (persons aged 65 and more) and generation of grandchildren (0-14), also confirms faster than the national average process of population ageing. In 2011 there were 104 grandparents per 100 grandchildren (on average in the country – 90) and in 2021 – already 138 (on average in the country – 119). The highest ageing ratio was recorded in gminas: Branice (199), Kędzierzyn-Koźle (170) and Nysa (169). The predominance of the number of grandchildren over that of grandparents (ageing ratio below 100) occurred in gminas: Skarbimierz (75), Ujazd (83), Wilków (91), Dobrzeń Wielki (92) and Łubniany (99). In the inter-census period, ageing ratio increased in most gminas, of which the most in: Branice (by 80), Tułowice (by 69) and Praszka (by 65).

Map 5. Number of persons aged 65 and more per 100 persons aged 0-14 in 2021



Dwellings and buildings

Results of National Population and Housing Census 2021 indicate that in Opolskie Voivodship there were 361.0 thousand dwellings which were located in 186.2 thousand buildings. Compared to the 2011 census results, the number of dwellings increased by 4.9% (on average in the country – by 12.8%) and of buildings by 6.2% (on average in the country – by 12.6%).

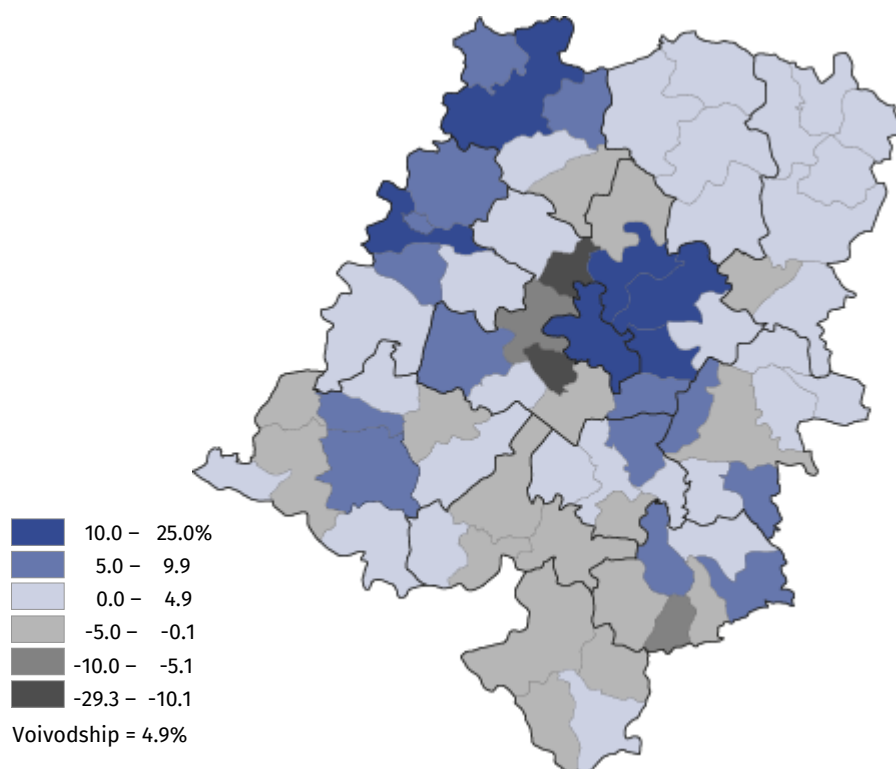
Table 2. Dwellings and buildings

Specification	2011	2021	
	in thousands		2011=100
Dwellings	344.2	361.0	104.9
urban areas	199.9	216.6	108.4
rural areas	144.3	144.3	100.0
Buildings	175.2	186.2	106.2
urban areas	54.9	63.5	115.6
rural areas	120.3	122.7	102.0

In the inter-census period, the number of dwellings increased by 4.9% and of buildings by 6.2%.

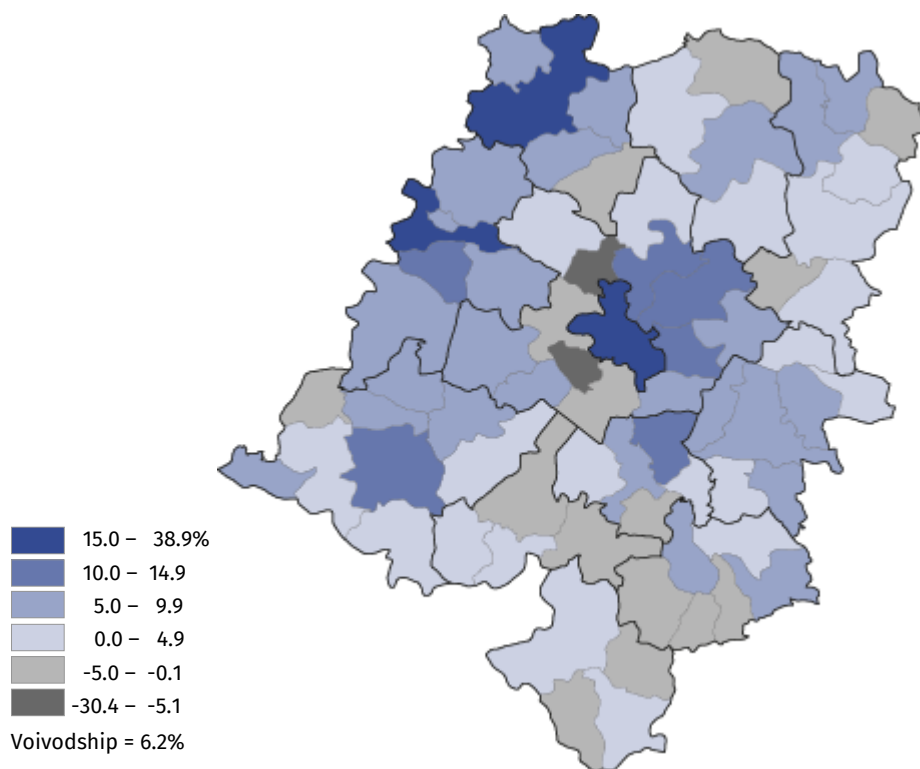
In the years 2011-2021, dynamics of the increase in the number of dwellings and buildings was higher in urban areas than in rural areas. The number of dwellings in urban areas increased compared to results of 2011 census by 8.4% and amounted to 216.6 thousand dwellings, whereas in rural areas remained on a similar level and amounted to 144.3 thousand dwellings. In the analysed period, the number of buildings increased in urban areas by 15.6% and amounted to 63.5 thousand buildings. In rural areas, however, the number of buildings increased only by 2.0% and amounted to 122.7 thousand buildings.

Map 6. Change in the number of dwellings in the years 2011-2021



In the years 2011-2021, in majority of gminas, an increase in the number of dwellings was recorded. The largest growth of dwellings occurred in gminas: Skarbimierz (of 25.0%), Namysłów (of 19.4%), Opole (of 18.4%) and Łubniany (of 13.9%). On the other hand, the largest decrease in the number of dwellings occurred in gminas: Dobrzeń Wielki (of 29.3%), Komprachcice (of 14.0%), Dąbrowa (of 6.1%) and Polska Cerekiew (of 6.0%).

Map 7. Change in the number of buildings in the years 2011-2021



In 2021, in relation to 2011, an increase in the number of buildings occurred in most gminas, of which the largest in gminas: Opole (of 38.9%), Skarbimierz (of 34.6%), Namysłów (of 19.9%) and Olszanka (of 13.9%). On the other hand a decrease was recorded, i.a. in gminas: Dobrzeń Wielki (of 30.4%), Komprachcice (of 14.8%), Dąbrowa (of 4.8%) and Pawłowiczki (of 4.0%).

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, please provide the following information: "Own study based on the Statistics Poland's data".

Prepared by:
Statistical Office in Opole
Director Janina Kuźmicka
Phone: 77 453 14 52

Issued by:
The Spokesperson of Statistical Office in Opole
Monika Bartel
Phone: 77 423 09 75



www.opole.stat.gov.pl



[@Opole_STAT](https://twitter.com/Opole_STAT)



[@USOpole](https://www.facebook.com/USOpole)

Related information

[National Census of Population and Housing 2021. Report on preliminary results](#)

[Preliminary results of the National Population and Housing Census 2021 – news release](#)

[National Population and Housing Census 2021. Research methodology and organization](#)

Data available in databases

[Local Data Bank](#)

Terms used in official statistics

[Population](#)

[Non-working age](#)

[Post-working age](#)

[Working age](#)

[Pre-working age](#)

[Density of population](#)

[Feminisation rate](#)

[Dwelling](#)

[Building](#)