



Migration in Poland



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Index

1. Introduction

2. General inflow and information

- Inflow of foreign population in Poland

3. Immigration

- Immigration by sex
- Immigration by sex group

4. Emigration

- Emigration by sex
- Emigration by age group

5. Economic analysis

- Employment rate by sex
- Unemployment rate by sex
- Total employment rate
- Total unemployment rate

7. Reason of entrance

- First permit by reason of entrance, by length of validity and citizenship

8. Asylum seekers

- New asylum requests in Poland

9. Social analysis

- People at risk of poverty and social exclusion by broad group of country of birth

10. References



1. Introduction

It's just since 1989 that Poland became a participant in global migration processes. In those years, Poland faced an increase of foreigners about 40% more compared to the previous year. After 1989, Poland has become a transit country for migrants traveling to Western Europe mainly citizens of Romania and Bulgaria.

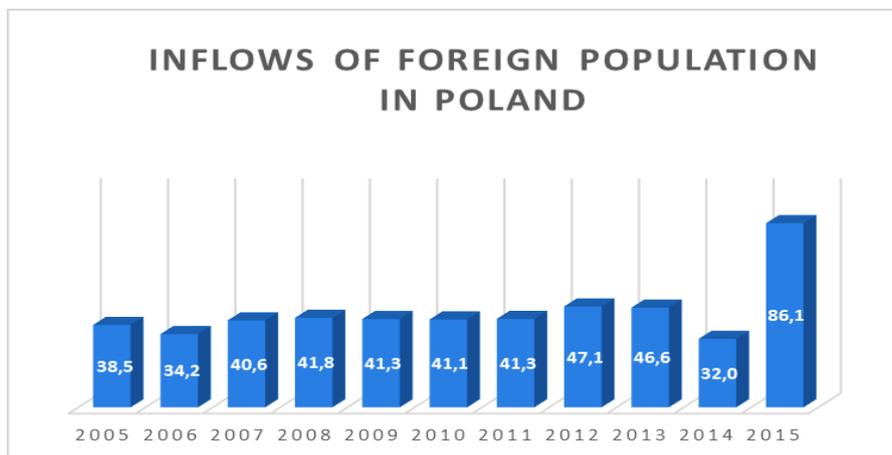
Between 1996 and 1999, the number of refugees stabilized in Poland was at a higher level than ever, mainly from Asia and the Middle East (Armenia, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Iraq).

In 2000, a large group of citizens of the Russian Federation of Chechen nationality arrived, which marked the beginning of a new trend. In this sense, there was an increase in the number of foreign students, most of them were coming from Ukraine, Belarus, Norway, Sweden and the United States.

The country's access to the European Union in May 2004 caused one of the biggest emigration flows since Poland's post-war history, so the country became one of the most important exporter of labour within the enlarged European Union. In addition to a decreasing birth rate, migration accounted for a real reduction in Poland's population over the past decade.

In July 2011, the inter-ministerial Committee on Migration adopted the “Polish migration policy – current state of play and further actions” which sets out recommendations for a new migration policy for Poland that included even policies on integration.

2. General inflow and information

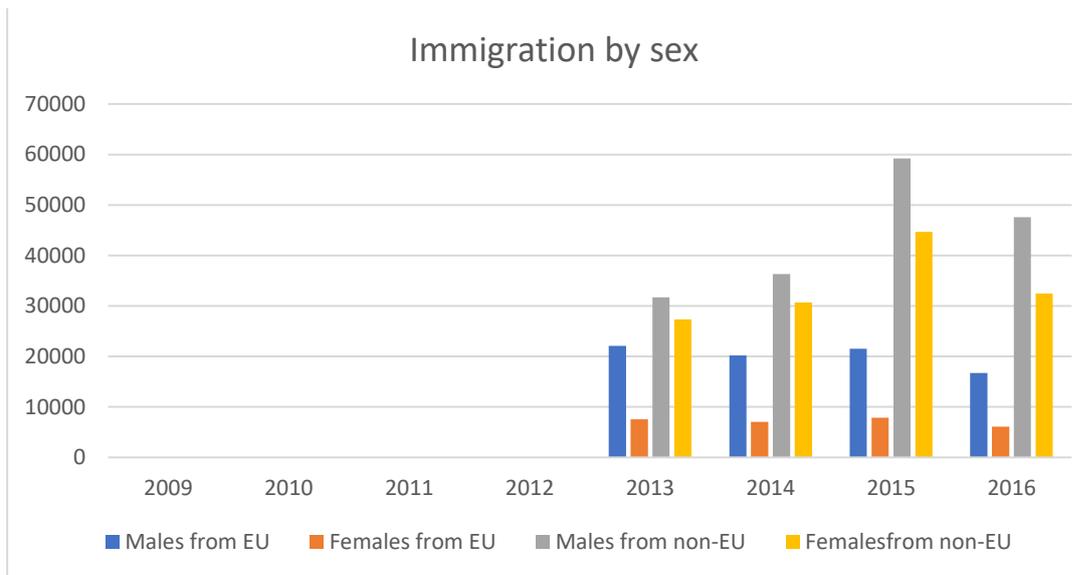


Source: <http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/keystat.htm>

Poland had registered in the last 15 years a slow and constant increase of Inflows of foreign population. Registered migration inflows to Poland only decreased by 12% in 2010, to around 15 200. Outflows also fell, by 6%, to about 17 400.

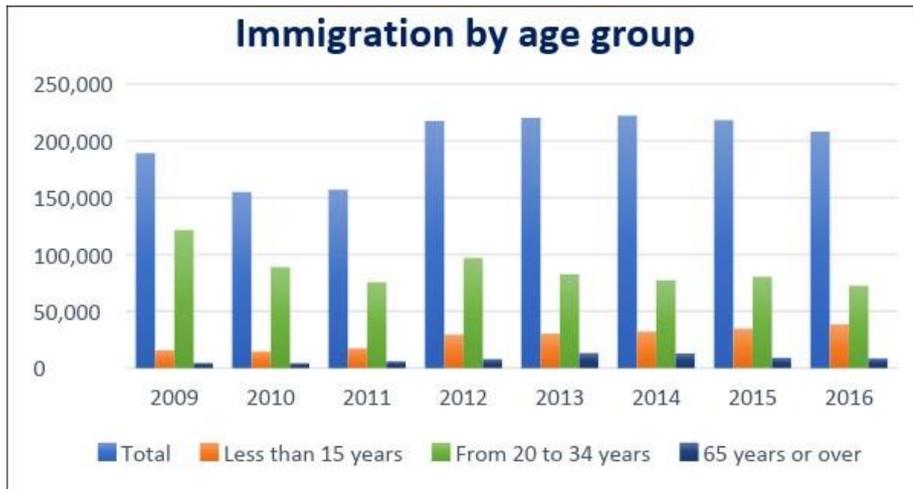
According to LFS estimations on the stock of foreign citizens aged over 14 residing in Poland (50000 in the first quarter of 2013 and 44 000 the year later), the foreign population is marginal compared to a total Polish population of 37.95 million. The number of work permits issued in Poland is increasing consistently from 2000 to 2017. More than one third of work permits were granted to Ukrainians, and almost one fifth to Chinese, Viet Nam, Nepal, Belarus and Turkey followed as the other main countries of origin.

3. Immigration



Source: Eurostat [migr_imm1ctz] - Last update: 04-04-2018

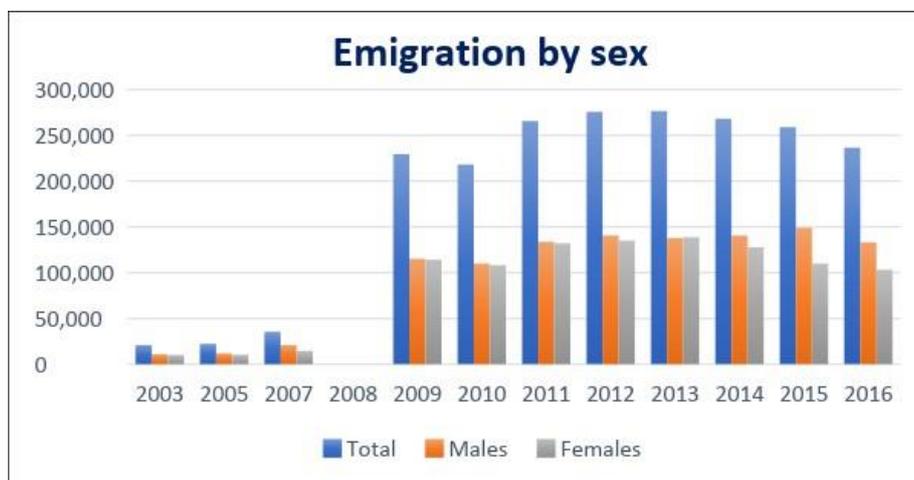
This graph shows the lack of data prior to 2013 since Poland was not part of EU and origin countries are classified according to the present composition of EU. From 2013 it can be observed that the number of male and female immigrants from EU countries is constant with a constant ratio of roughly 3 to 1. The pattern of non-EU immigration is noticeably increasing with a peak in 2015 and a slight decrease in 2016, with a much lower majority of men over women.



Source: Eurostat [migr_imm3ctb] - Last update: 09-04-2018

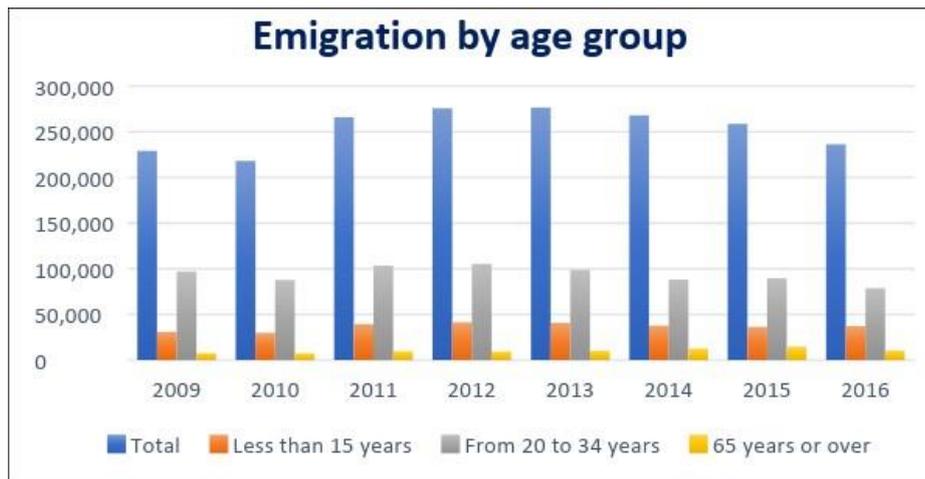
This graph shows that the most represented age group is the 20 to 34 years old, followed by the child immigration, up to 15 years old. The ratios between each group is constant throughout the whole period of analysis, with a slight increase in the number of immigrants younger than 15. The slight decrease in the 2010-2011 years is observed not only in the total number, but also in every category independently.

4. Emigration



Source: Eurostat [migr_emi2] - Last update: 26-03-2018

The Polish emigration, besides the unavailable data for 2008, had a huge increase from 2009. The number of emigrants after 2009 is roughly five times larger than before, with the number of male and female equal until 2013, followed by a slight increase in the number of male emigrants. The total outflow number has a peak in 2013 with a slight decrease in more recent years. The reason for the growth of the outflow in 2009 is probably due to the entrance of the country in the Schengen common area, that has allowed Polish people to move in Europe and migrate abroad.

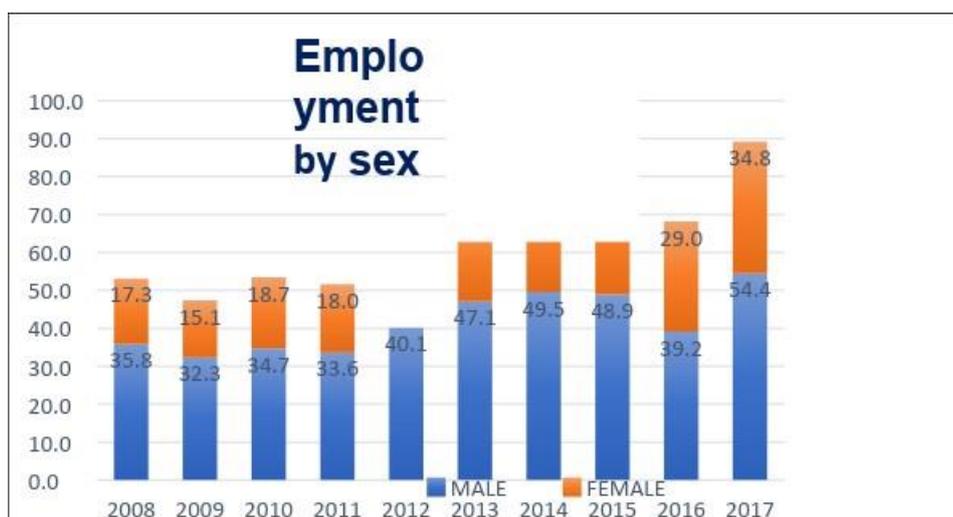


Source: Eurostat [migr_emi1ctz] - Last update: 04-04-2018

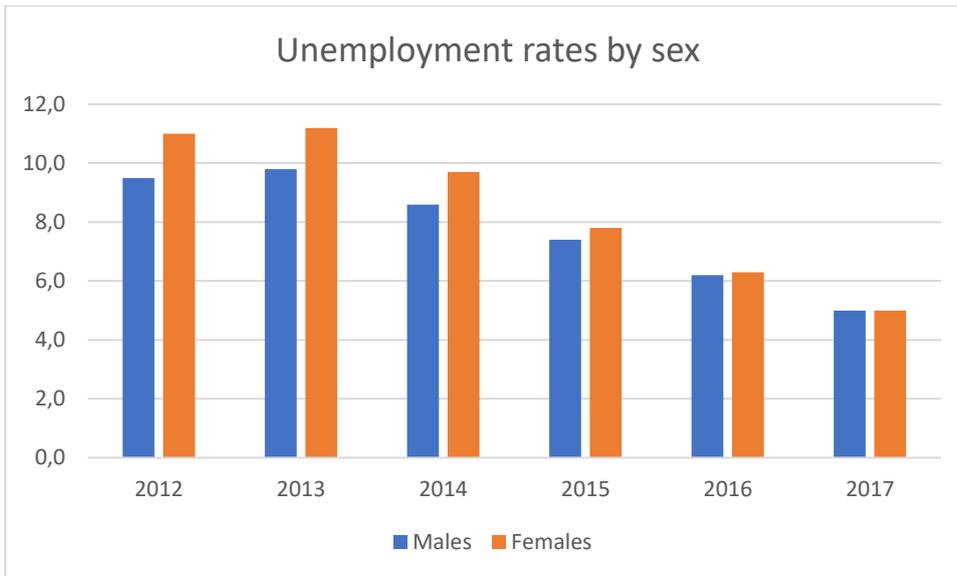
The category of people in the working age (20 to 34 years old) is the most likely to emigrate, with a peak in 2012, coherent with the total outflow. The second most represented group is the less than 15 years while the oldest emigrated more in the recent years.

5. Economic analysis

The labour market of women and men does not balance. The employment rate of women is lower than men in Poland. Men are still better paid in comparison to women with similar employment status. Moreover, the younger women do not have to face such problems of getting job as mature ones. The reason is obvious. Younger women are much more better educated and flexible on domestic labour market. The improvement of education of women provides the increase in the employment rate.

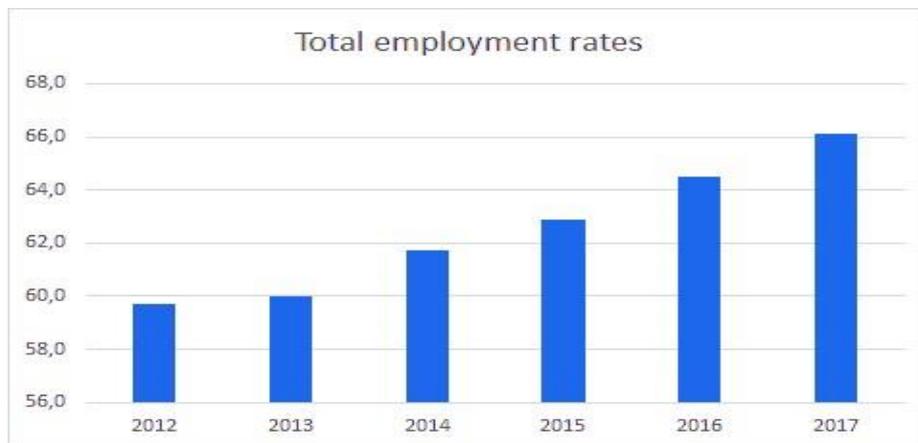


Source: Eurostat [lfsa_organ] - Last update: 20-04-2018

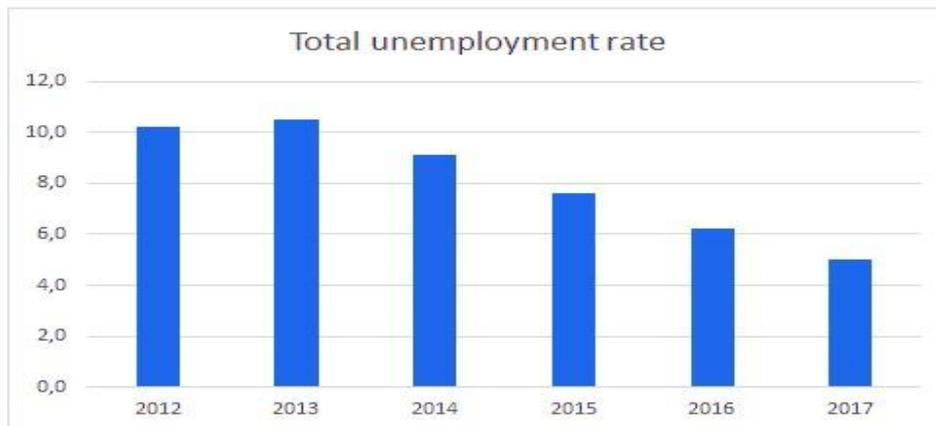


Source: Eurostat [lfsa_organ] - Last update: 20-04-2018

Employment Rate in Poland decreased to 66.40% in the fourth quarter of 2017 from 66.50% in the third quarter of 2017. Employment Rate in Poland averaged 57.76 percent from 1997 until 2017, reaching an all-time high of 66.50 percent in the third quarter of 2017 and a record low of 50.40 percent in the first quarter of 2003.



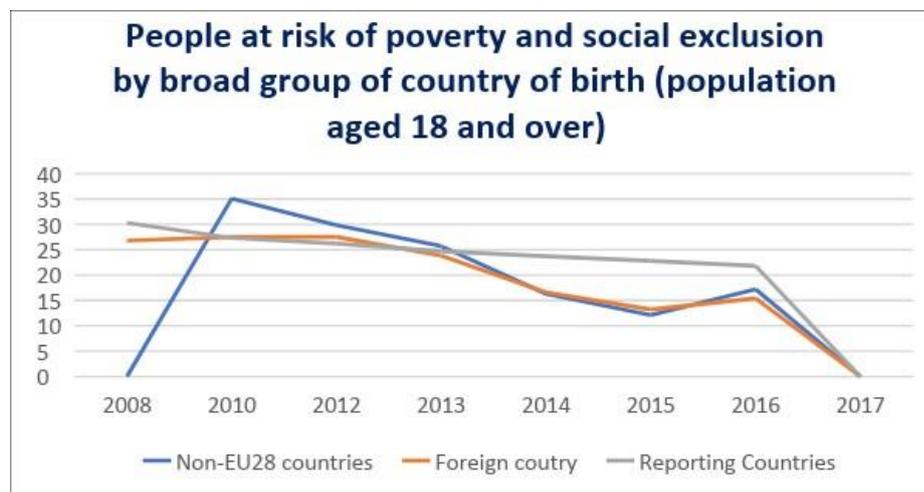
Source: Eurostat [lfsa_organ] - Last update: 20-04-2018



Source: Eurostat [lfsa_urgan] - Last update: 20-04-2018

The unemployment rate in Poland inched down to 6.6 percent in March of 2018 from 6.8 percent in the previous month, in line with market expectations. It was the lowest jobless rate since December, as the number of registered unemployed persons fell by around 36 thousand to 1.092 million. A year earlier, the unemployment rate was higher at 8 percent. Unemployment in Poland averaged 13.04 percent from 1990 until 2018, reaching an all-time high of 20.70 percent in February of 2003 and a record low of 0.30 percent in January of 1990.

6. Social analysis

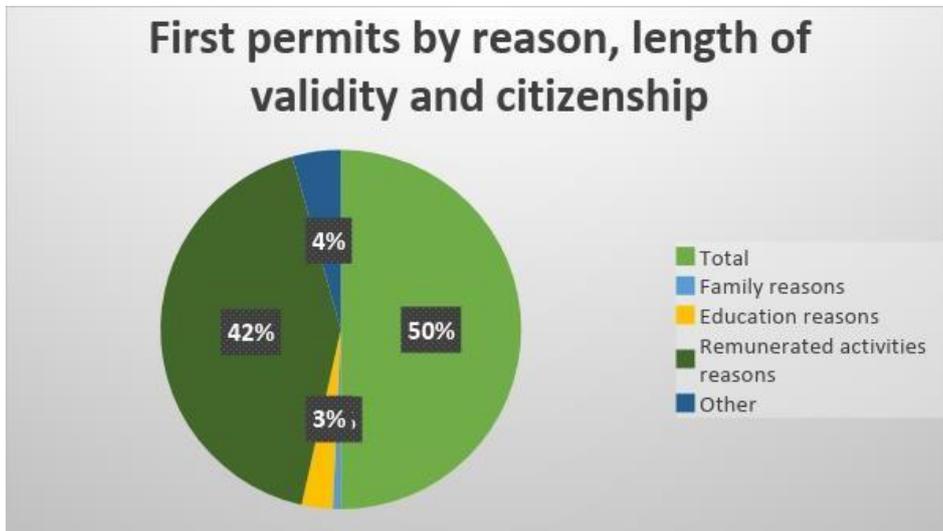


Source: Eurostat [ilc_peps06] - Last update: 19-04-2018

This graphic shows that the risk of poverty in Poland decreased in the 2008. In comparison to the EU countries, Poland made the greatest progress in reducing the risk of poverty. Dynamics of changes in reducing the risk of poverty in Poland was the highest among the EU countries. The scale of the risk of poverty in Poland in 2010 was one of the highest. The situation in Poland in 2015 indicated that in 2015 the degree of risk of poverty was lower in Poland than in many EU countries: Portugal, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Cyprus, Italy, Spain, Greece, Ireland, Estonia. In addition, the world economic crisis of 2008–2010 did not affect the risk of poverty in Poland. In most EU countries during the crisis

the risk of poverty increased, however in Poland it declined. This undoubtedly allowed for improving the situation in Poland to a higher extent than in other EU countries.

7. Reasons of entrance

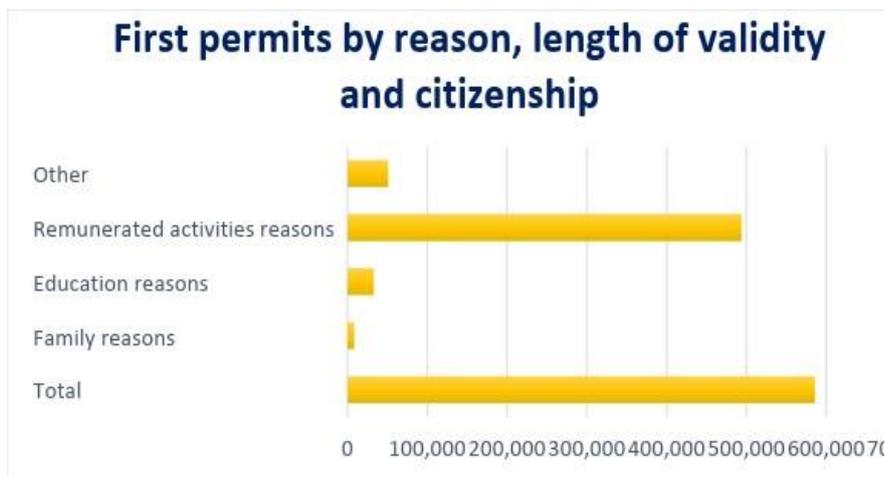


Source: Eurostat [migr_resfirst] - Last update: 16-02-2018

The outcomes of the research show that the main channel of entrance is for remunerated activities reasons and this fact shows us the evidence that Poland is a country in which the majority of people entering are looking for an employment in order to earn money.

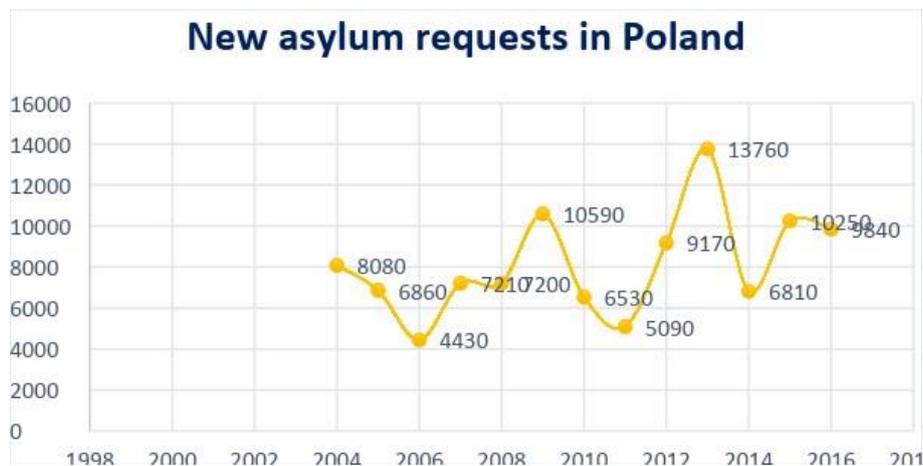
Only a small share of permits is issued for education reasons while permits for family reunification represent the reason the less used in order to obtain a permit.

As regards the figure below, it is noticeable one more time how the number of migrants by remunerated activity represents the main reason of entrance.



Source: Eurostat [migr_resfirst] - Last update: 16-02-2018

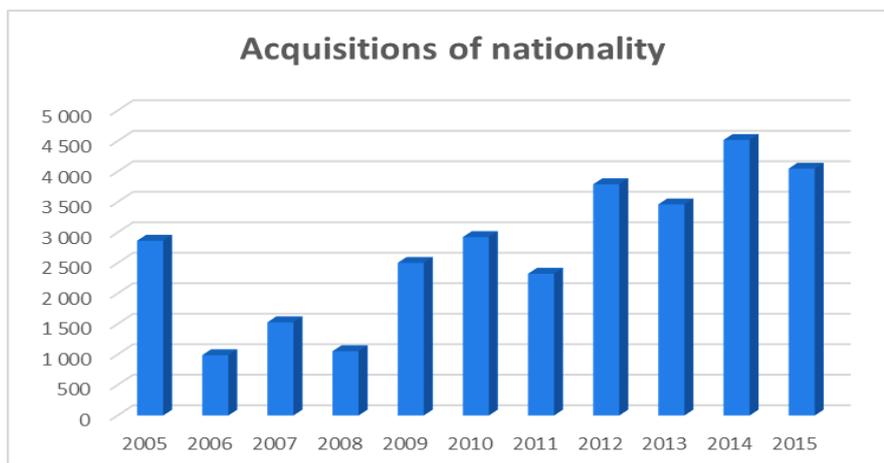
8. Asylum seekers



Source: <http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/keystat.htm>

In 2013, the number of individuals requesting refugee or asylum status increased by 60% and reached 13760 people. This rise can be attributed to an increase in Syrian and Russian asylum applications. This increase notwithstanding, the last quarter of 2013 followed the seasonal patterns observed in most years whereby asylum claims drop significantly towards the end of the year.

9. Acquisition of nationality



Source: <http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/keystat.htm>

The acquisition of Polish nationality had had a peak in 2014, rather it could be observed a low rate or request from 2006-2008.

10. References

Eurostat Database - <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>

OECD - <http://www.oecd.org/els/mig/keystat.htm>

Migracje.gov.pl - <https://migracje.gov.pl/en/>