

This project is implemented through
the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme
co-financed by the ERDF



**Obraz demograficzny Opola
wpływ przemian ludnościowych na sytuację na rynku pracy i poziom życia
mieszkańców do roku 2020
(STRESZCZENIE)**

**Analysis of demographic change effects with special focus
on the labour market in Opole until 2020
cooperative identification of measures to increase the quality of life
(SUMMARY)**

The Publisher

Opole City



The Partner – a member of the *Via Regia Plus* Project – *Sustainable mobility and Regional Cooperation along the Pan-European Transport Corridor III*



The Project Partners

The City Council of Wrocław – the leading partner

The City Council of Krakow

Górnośląska Agencja Przekształceń Przedsiębiorstw SA

Gliwice City

Opole City

The Lower Silesian Province

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Lipisk City

Drezno City

Košice City

Agentura na podporu regionálneho rozvoja Košice

The City Council of Lwow

The Project duration: 10/2008 – 09/2011



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About the Project

Via Regia Plus – Sustainable Mobility and Regional Cooperation along the Pan-European Transport Corridor III – Zrównoważony transport i współpraca regionalna wzdłuż

III paneuropejskiego korytarza komunikacyjnego

The *Via Regia Plus (VR+) Project*, realized in the scope of the *Central Europe Programme*, is a continuation of the *ED-C III Via Regia Project 2006-2009*. Its aim is to implement key decisions of the spatial development strategy elaborated in the previous edition of the spatial development strategy of the areas located in the part of the Transport Corridor III – from Berlin, through the Southern Poland to the western part of Ukraine.

The Project assumes to take action in the following areas:

1. improvement of the transport availability in the area of the corridor through the development of the sustainable mobility,
2. reinforcement of connecting points of the Corridor (cities – centres of regions) acting as regional development “engines”,
3. using tourist potential of areas situated within the borders of the Transport Corridor III.

The VR Project + is realized by an international team: Opole is one of 14 partners – cities, regions and agencies of the regional development from Poland, Germany, Slovakia and Ukraine. The leader of this undertaking is the City of Wrocław. The Project realization began in spring 2009, and will be over in 2011.

Each of the partners – in co-operation and agreement with the other participants of the project – realize the aims resulting from local or regional needs. Opole takes part in the research works dedicated to the issue of demographic changes present in the “ageing” Europe and their influence on the standard and quality of living of the cities dwellers. A comprehensive analysis of the population potential of the city in the light of demographic changes in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 was made within the scope of the Project. A forecast of a demographic development for the years 2010 – 2020 was also made, indicating new development challenges which the city council must meet. Information on this subject has been presented in this paper.

Moreover, works on the concept of sustainable mobility of the city transport taking into account needs and expectations of all traffic users in Opole are being executed. Among others, the possibilities of introducing alternative means of transport to the city traffic and using the existing communication infrastructure, which is frequently degraded or not used for a very long time are being checked.

The results of the research which is being made are available at the website at:

<http://www.opole.pl/biznes/artykuly>

The Project value: EUR 147 000

The value of the EU subsidy: EUR 124 950 (85%)



INTRODUCTION

This paper is a result of a research made in the scope of the *Via Regia Plus* Project, co-financed from the EU financial means in the scope of the *Central Europe Programme*. It is a summary and a compilation of papers ordered by The Opole City Council: the research work entitled *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych* (A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes) and the study entitled *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010 – 2020* (Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020)¹. These complex papers were made in two research centres. The first one was made in Wyższa Szkoła Zarządzania i Administracji (the High School of Management and Administration) in Opole, the second one was prepared by the research and advisory limited liability company *Public Profits Sp. z o. o.* from Poznań.

The chosen results of the demographic analysis were supplemented with extracts of complex social and economic analyses, which have been made for five years in the Opole City Council.² The paper created in this way contains among others a concise description of demographic changes which took

¹ 1. *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r. – analiza trendów demograficznych w latach 1989-2009 i prognoza zmian ludnościowych miasta Opola do roku 2020*, WSZiA, Opole 2009; (A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes of Opole until the year 2020, WSZiA, Opole 2009)

2. *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits Sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010 (Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020, Public Profits Sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010)

² 1. *Analiza sytuacji społeczno-gospodarczej Opola w roku 2009*, Urząd Miasta Opola, Opole 2010 (An analysis of the social and economic situation of Opole in 2009, the City Council of Opole, Opole 2010)

2. *Analiza sytuacji społeczno-gospodarczej Opola w roku 2008*, Urząd Miasta Opola, Opole 2009 (An analysis of the social and economic situation of Opole in 2008, the City Council of Opole, Opole 2009)

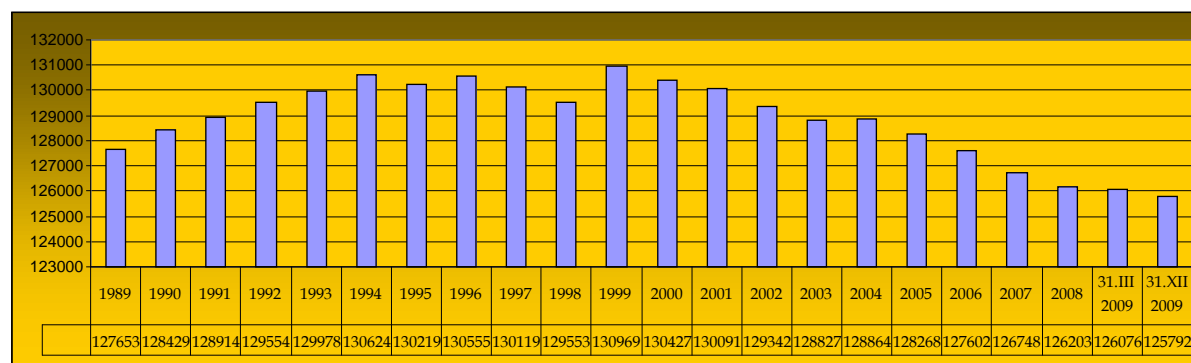
3. *Analiza sytuacji społeczno-gospodarczej Opola w latach 2006-2007*, Urząd Miasta Opola, Opole 2008 (An analysis of the social and economic situation of Opole in 2006-2007, the City Council of Opole, Opole 2008)

place in Opole in the period of systemic and economic transformation in the years 1989-2009, a comparison of the current population situation in the capital of the Opole province with other cities of the province rank as well as short information concerning the course of the forecasted demographic processes and challenges for the regional development policy resulting from it. They were described in detail in the source elaborations. The analysis was enriched with a description of a demographic situation of several chosen, homogenous spatial units of Opole (including city districts) and perspectives of the population growth in these areas. This type of research was made in Opole for the first time.

1. DEMOGRAPHIC VIEW OF OPOLE IN TWO DECADES OF THE YEARS 1989-2009

In the last twenty years of the period between the year 1989 and 2009, an increase and a decrease in the number of Opole inhabitants occurred interchangeably (undulation of baby-booms and demographic lows). In the first five years of this period, the number of inhabitants increased continuously – in the year 1994, the number of Opole inhabitants exceeded 130.6 thousand. It reached the maximum value in 1999 (131 thousand), however in the next years it decreased systematically (except in the year 2004, when a slight increase in the number of Opole inhabitants took place). At the end of December 2009, Opole had 125 792 inhabitants.³ It means that the number of inhabitants in the capital of the region was then lower than at the end of December 1989 by 1861 people, that is by 1.45 %. The demographic balance of the two decades *per saldo* is negative for Opole.

Figure 1 The number of Opole inhabitants in the years 1989-2009

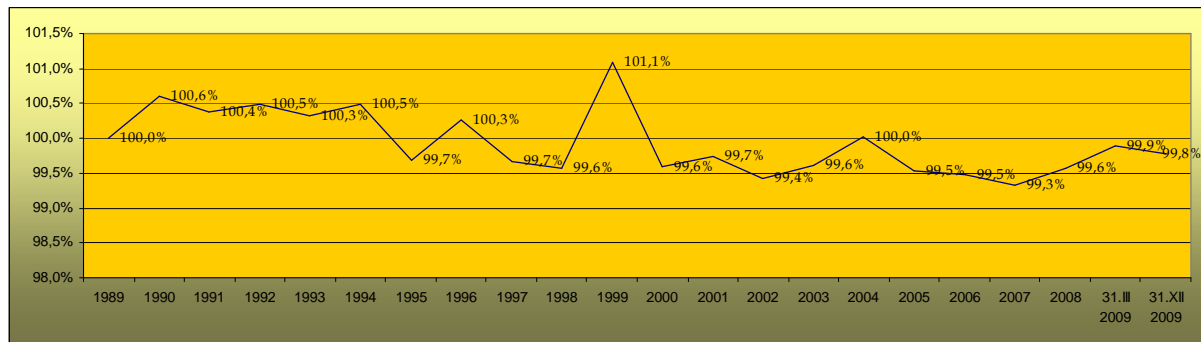


Source: Own analysis on the basis of the data presented in:

Żurawska J.: *Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska*, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestolecie 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s. 39-40 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*)

³ *Biuletyn statystyczny województwa opolskiego*, maj 2010 r., Urząd Statystyczny w Opolu, Opole 2010, s.63 (The Statistic newsletter of Opole Province, May 2010, the Statistical Office in Opole, Opole 2010, p. 63)

Figure 2 Dynamics of changes in the number of Opole inhabitants in the years 1989-2009



the previous year=100%

Source: own analysis

About 12% of inhabitants of this province live in the capital city. The number of inhabitants given in the official statistics covers a group of people registered for permanent residence in the city as well as those registered for a temporary residence, longer than 3 months. However, it does not take into consideration a group of the so-called suspended emigrants that is the people who emigrated but did not de-register from Opole (did not report a change of address). It is worth noticing that the above-mentioned number of inhabitants refers to the so-called night inhabitants (living in a given area at night), whereas the so-called daily inhabitants have a huge and constantly growing influence on the social, economic and spatial policy of the city. For example, in the year 2006, the number of people commuting to their work in Opole during the day amounted to 15 772, and the number of those leaving Opole in order to commute to their work outside this city amounted to 3080.⁴ It means that during the day - in connection with work or education - there are much more people in Opole than there are inhabitants.

The population density in Opole is not high. The exception is the city central zone and the housing estate called Armii Krajowej. The rest of areas are characterized by a relatively low population density, what has an influence on the quality of life in the city and makes it more friendly to all people. There are on average 1303 inhabitants in the area of the surface equal to 1 km². This index places Opole in the middle of the group of province cities.

The community of Opole is strongly feminized. According to statistics, in the year 2009, there were 114 women per 100 men (since 2004 **the feminization rate** grows systematically). The preponderance of men is maintained in the group of the youngest Opole inhabitants, up to the age of 18 (the years 2009-1992), but in subsequent age groups, the participation of women increased significantly. In case of the oldest people (65 years old and older), there were 163 women per 100 men.⁵

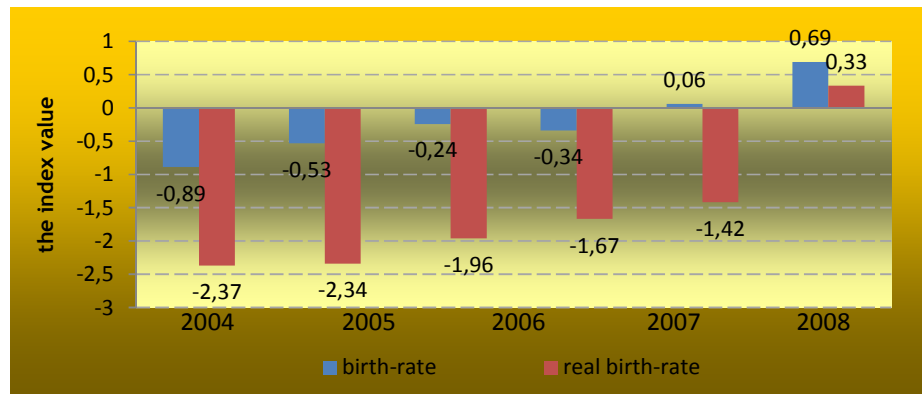
A negative **birth-rate** (-438) was noted in the Opole province in the year 2009. In Opole, the number of births of alive babies significantly exceeded the number of deaths (+84). The birth-rate in Opole was equal to 0.7%. This is another year in which there was an increasing number of births and a positive birth-rate in the city. A positive balance of birth-rate was present only in Opole and in the Krapkowice

⁴ *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, s. 5 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 5)

⁵ *Stan i ruch naturalny ludności w województwie opolskim*, maj 2010 r. Urząd Statystyczny w Opolu, Opole 2010, s. 3 (*The State and natural movement of people in the Opole province*, May 2010, the Statistical Office in Opole, Opole 2010, p. 3)

district in the Opole province. A tendency based on a systematic increase of the real birth-rate is well-visible (Figure 3), the result of which is a slow reconstruction of a demographic structure of Opole.⁶

Figure 3 The birth-rate and the real birth-rate in Opole in the years 2004-2009⁷



Source: *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010, s.13 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010, p. 13)

Moreover, in the years 2004-2008 an increase in the value of **the fertility rate**⁸ took place in Opole, from the level of 27 to 35 births of alive babies per 1000 women aged 15-49 (an increase by about 30%). The pace of the fertility rate increase in Opole is slightly higher in comparison with general tendencies in Poland – about 6% more babies are born on average each year, whereas in Poland, the fertility rate increases by 4.5%.⁹ **The TFR (total fertility rate)**¹⁰ also increased, although its value for Opole (1.087 in the year 2008) is still lower than the value counted for the whole Poland and – what is even more important – it is significantly lower than the value with which a simple reproduction of the population (between 2.10 a 2.15) is ensured.

For several years, the number of people coming to Opole has been lower than the number of people leaving the city. **Migrations of population in the so-called internal population movement** that is within the borders of Poland are now the main cause of the decrease in the number of the city dwellers. They are connected among others with the progressing process of suburbanization of the Opole agglomeration area and desurbanization of the Opole central zone. The most migration-prone (the most mobile) are people between the ages of 30 and 50 years old. More and more frequently, the city becomes a consumption and working area for people with a stabilized professional and family position, and the highly-urbanized suburban area becomes a residential and rest area. This is why the number of forty and fifty-year-old people decreases in Opole.

⁶ *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o.o., Poznań 2010, s.13 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 13)

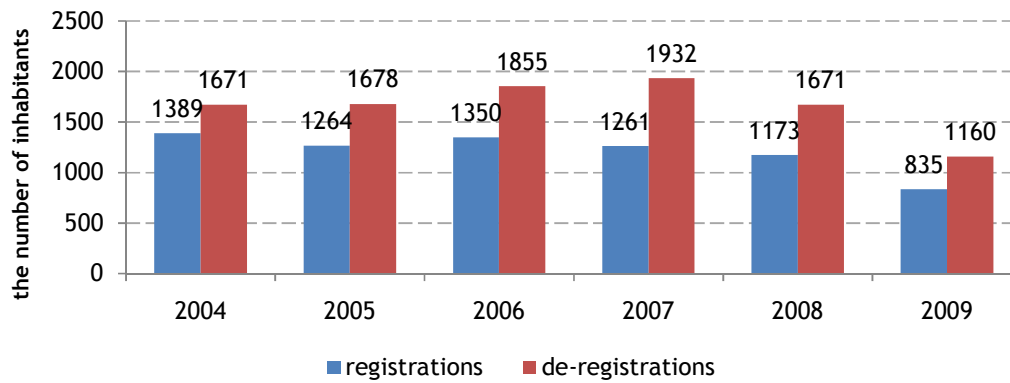
⁷ The year 2009 – the state at the end of September 2009

⁸ Współczynnik płodności określa liczbę urodzonych dzieci, przypadających na jedną kobietę w wieku rozrodczym (15-49)

⁹ *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o.o., Poznań 2010, s.13 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 13)

¹⁰ Counted as a quotient of the number of births in general and the number of women at the childbearing age, 15 – 49 years old)

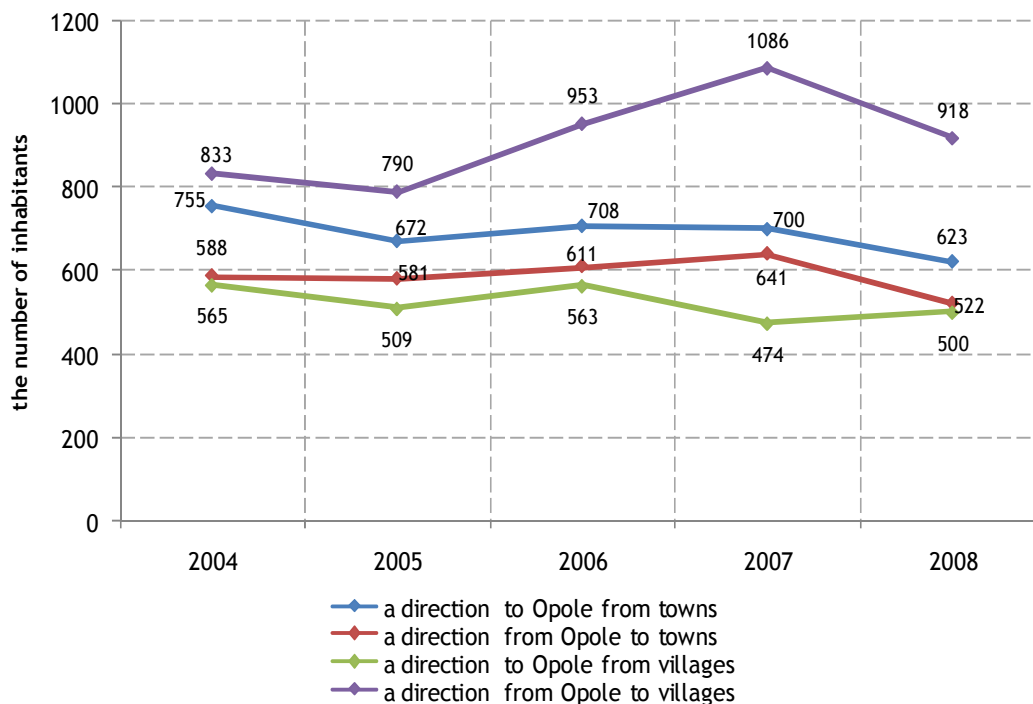
Figure 4 The internal population movement in Opole in the years 2004-2009¹¹



Source: *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010, s.25 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 25)

Opole remained however, and for some people it became an attractive residential area. It concerns mainly young people who have not reached the age of 40 years yet. For these inhabitants, the urban way of life, with all its facilities – including among others the availability of good social infrastructure (educational, cultural, sport and recreation, etc.) which Opole possesses – plays a key role. In comparison with the year 2004, the number of people between the ages of 25-29 years old living in Opole increased by 224, and at the age of 30-34 years old – by 1196. A group of slightly older inhabitants, between the age of 35 and 39 years old, increased by 1184.¹²

Figure 5 The direction of internal migrations aiming at permanent residence in the years 2004-2009 (the state at the end of December of a given year)



¹¹ The year 2009 – the state for the first three quarters of the year

¹² *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010, s.25 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 25)

Source: *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010, s.25-25 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 25)

A vision of living in another country seems to be less tempting today and the relations between the remuneration for work abroad and in the country are significantly less beneficial than it was several years ago. An **emigration abroad** decreases year by year, however, it is difficult to state whether the tendency has a stable character. Demographic forecasts include stabilized migration balance at the current level.

Figure 6 The external movement of Opole inhabitants in the years 2004-2009¹³



Source: *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o. o., Poznań 2010, s.27-25 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 27)

In the view of authors of demographic studies the “period of political transformation and a crisis of last years had a huge influence on the demographic situation and the natural movement of people (...) The years 1995-2007 were characterized by a serious decrease in the number of births and the natural population growth. At the same time, excessive migrations abroad had a negative influence on the demographic situation of the region (reproducing in time the number of people and the population structure, human resources and qualifications of the society). A changeability of age structures has a key influence on the social and economic development of Opole, causing a significant decrease in the number of children and teenagers at the age of 0-17 years old and an increase in the number of people at the working age and at the post-working age.(...) The above-mentioned unfavourable demographic processes are deepened by a progressing population ageing process, which results among others from the decreasing women fertility rate.”¹⁴

¹³ The year 2009 – the state for the first three quarters of the year

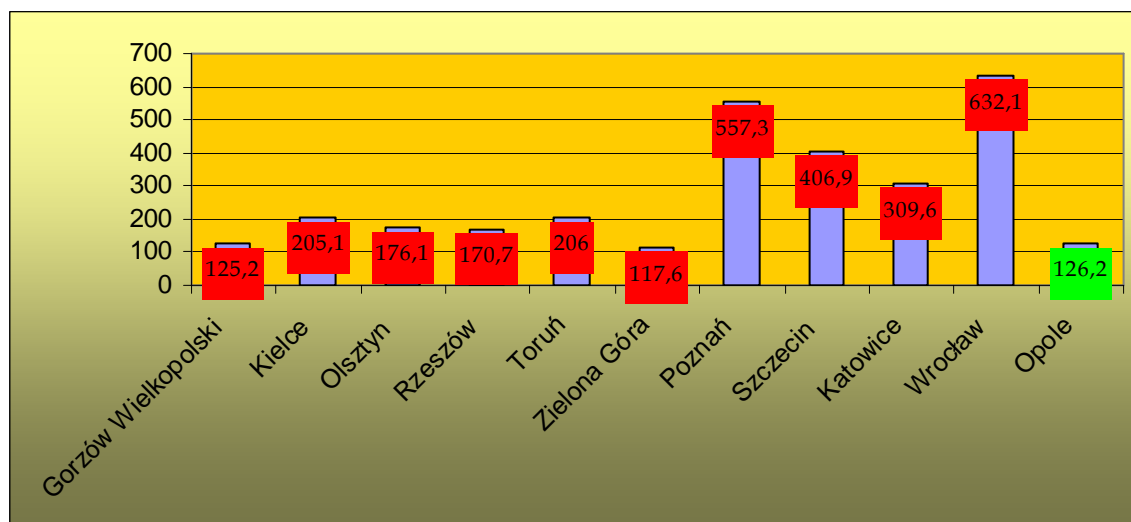
¹⁴ Drozdowski R., Borkowska I., Morchat M.: *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Poznań 2010, s. 81-82 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, pp. 81-82)

A description of key demographic tendencies of the past two decades in the quantitative view against other regional capitals, similar to Opole from the point of view of a demographic and economic potential¹⁵

The following capital cities of provinces are in the group chosen for the comparison: Gorzów Wielkopolski, Zielona Góra, Kielce, Olsztyn, Rzeszów, Toruń, Poznań, Szczecin, Katowice and Wrocław - 10 cities out of the group of 18 capital cities of the regions in the country. All capital cities of provinces in Poland are considered to be big cities.

A part of cities in this group has a similar or slightly bigger number of inhabitants but not exceeding 200 thousand. These cities are considered to be medium sized in the classification adopted by the EU. The following cities are included in this group: Kielce, Toruń, Olsztyn, Rzeszów, Gorzów Wielkopolski and Zielona Góra. The other cities have much bigger number of inhabitants. 632.1 thousand people lived in Wrocław – the biggest city of this group –in the year 2008. This number of inhabitants is five times higher than in Opole.

Figure 7 The number of inhabitants in the chosen province capital cities in Poland in the year 2008 (in thousand of inhabitants)



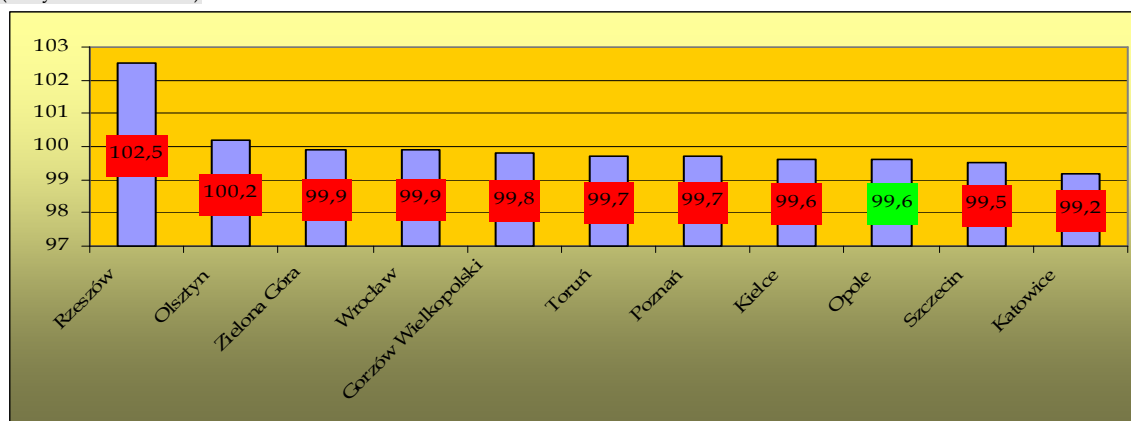
Source: Own analysis on the basis of the data presented in:

Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestolecie 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s.43 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 43)

There are similar, unfavourable demographic processes – the number of inhabitants decreases – in all capital cities of provinces in this group. The exceptions are cities such as Rzeszów and Olsztyn, in which in 2008, the number of inhabitants increased in comparison with the year 2007. The biggest decrease in the number of inhabitants took place in Katowice (by 0.8% in a year). The rest of the cities are in a situation similar to Opole – an annual decrease in the number of inhabitants ranged from 0.1% to 0.5%.

¹⁵ The choice was made by Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestolecie 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s.42-61 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, pp. 42-61).

Figure 8 Dynamics of the population changes in the chosen capital cities of provinces in Poland in the year 2008. (the year 1997=100%)

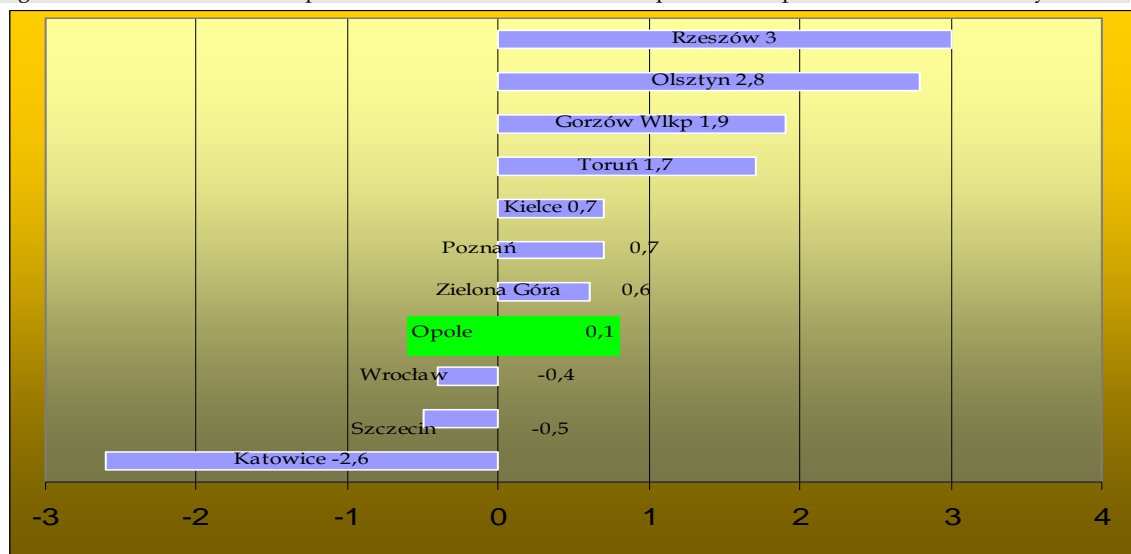


Source: Own analysis on the basis of data presented in:

Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s.43 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 43)

One of the causes of this situation is a low birth-rate. In cities in which it did not exceed 2, a decrease in the number of inhabitants took place. The following cities characterized by a negative birth-rate are in the worst situation: Szczecin, Katowice and Wrocław. The highest birth-rate in this group of cities was in Rzeszów (3%) and Olsztyn (2.8%). A positive birth-rate has been seen in Opole for two years, at the same time the number of babies born alive has also been increasing.

Figure 9 A birth-rate per 1000 inhabitants in the chosen capital cities of provinces in Poland in the year 2008.

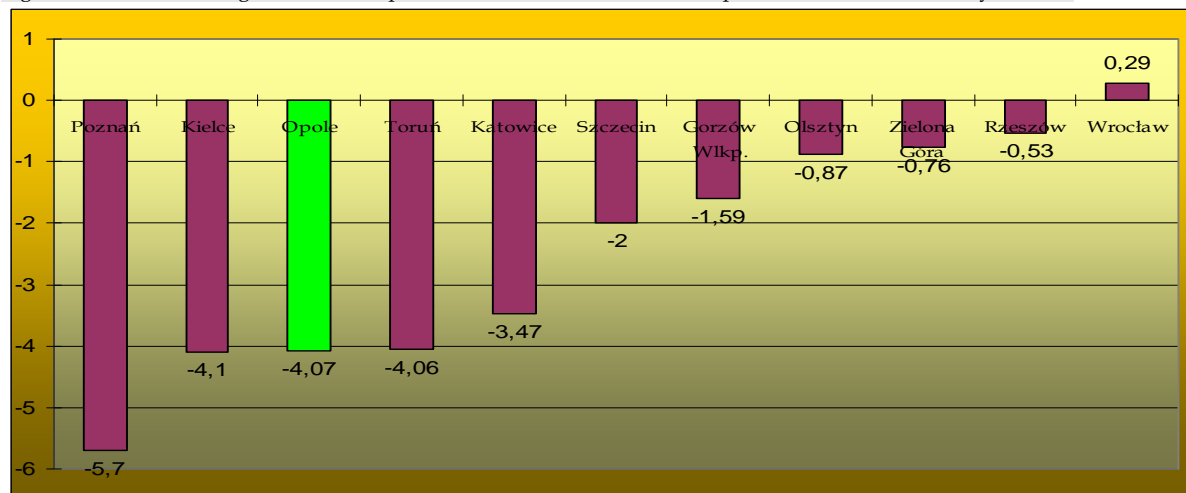


Source: Own analysis on the basis of the data presented in:

Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s.45 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 45)

Migration processes such as internal migrations, including a flow of people connected with a suburbanization of space as well as migration movements abroad are very important features forming a demographic situation of Polish cities. Opole, just like Kielce, Toruń and Katowice, belongs to the cities with a low and negative migration balance. A lower migration balance was in Poznań and Kielce in the year 2008 and it amounted to -5.7% (in Poznań) and -4.1% (in Kielce).

Figure 10 A migration balance per 100 inhabitants in the chosen capital cities in Poland in the year 2008.



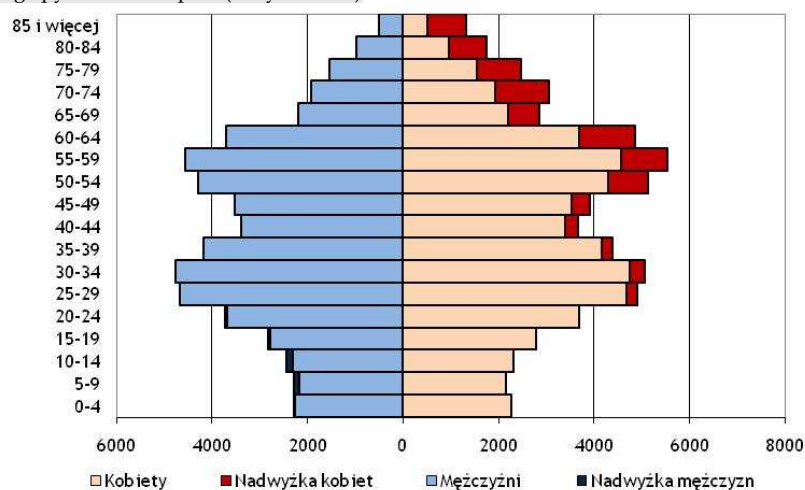
Source: Own analysis on the basis of the data presented in:

Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestolecie 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s.45 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 45)

2. DEMOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENT OF OPOLE UNTIL THE YEAR 2020

In Opole, the majority of inhabitants are between 25 and 50 years old (people at the working age). An average age of Opole inhabitants is 42.1 years. A low birth-rate has been seen for the last several years. The number of 65-year-old and older people has been increasing and there are more of people at this age than young people under the age of 30 years old. Women are also in majority, especially those over 50 years old. All this makes that the so-called age pyramid for the society of Opole has a very irregular shape (see: the figure below).

Figure 11 Age pyramid for Opole (the year 2010)



Women; The excess of women; Men; The excess of men

Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, s. 27 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 27)

As far as demography is concerned, Opole is an extremely varied territory. There are districts inhabited mainly by people at the working and post-working age (Śródmieście, Osiedle Chabry, Szczepanowice). There are also “younger” areas in which the average age of inhabitants is significantly lower (Kolonia Gosławicka, Grotowice, Gosławice). The most unfavorable is the age structure of the society living in the central city zone. The number of inhabitants drops dramatically – in the last years it has decreased by 6%. It means that a progressing urbanization of Opole takes place.

Note: The data for the whole city (the number of people, the age structure, the feminization rate, the ratio of non-working people to those at the working age, etc) were specified in the analysis as **base amounts**.

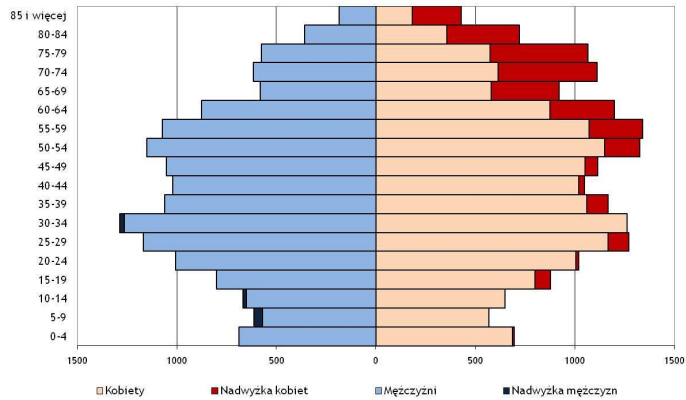
A population situation and demographic forecasts for chosen spacial units of Opole¹⁶

The Opole district/city zone name	Characteristics of the district/the city zone inhabitants
Śródmieście (the central zone of the city)	There are 32.5 thousand people living in Śródmieście (the central zone of the city). The average age of inhabitants of this part of the city slightly exceeds 44 years old and it is the highest value in Opole. The percentage of people at the working age is higher than at the pre-working age and it has constantly been increasing. A high feminization rate (120.4 women per 100 men) and a negative migration balance (since the year 2004) are characteristic for this area. The age pyramid of Opole inhabitants in the year 2010 has an irregular shape pointing to a regressive character of the population in Opole as far as demography is concerned. The sex ratio is asymmetric. It is caused by a higher number of male births, what causes an excess of men in comparison to women up to the age of about 25 years old. In older age groups, a greater number of women than men is visible. It is

¹⁶Source:

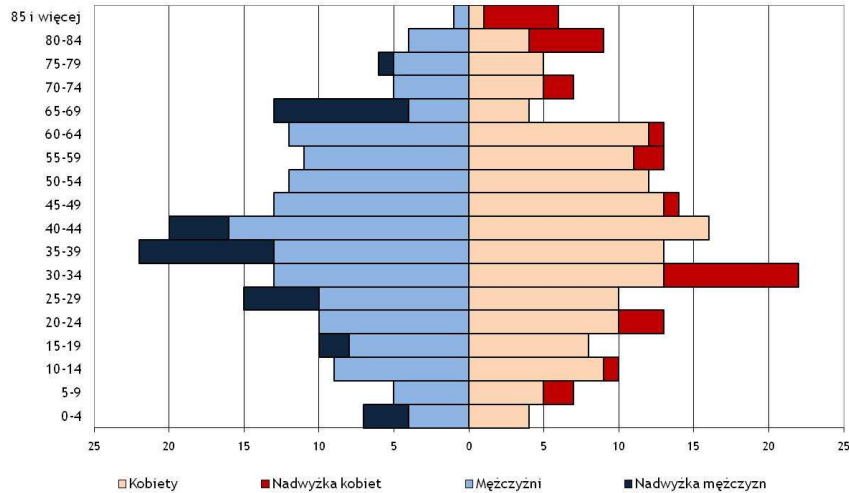
Figures - *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010),

The text – Own analysis on the basis of: *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010)



connected with a death rate, which in case of men increases faster than in case of women.

By the year 2020, a further decrease in the number of inhabitants will have taken place in this part of the city. It is forecasted that in the year 2020, the central zone of the city (Śródmieście) will be inhabited by about 26.5 thousand people. A demographic "ageing" process of the whole population will be progressing - the average age of inhabitants of this part of the city will exceed 48 years. It will cause a significant increase in the post-working dependency ratio - 83 non-working people will be counted per 100 people at the working age.

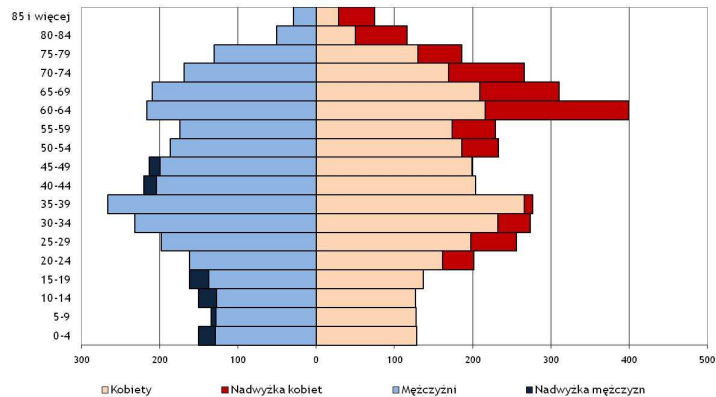


Bierkowice

The plots of lands in this part of the city are aimed at a low intensity residential development. Thanks to surrounding green areas and vast recreational areas, Bierkowice became an attractive place of living. In the last years, the number of inhabitants has been gradually increasing (from 324 people in the year 2004 to 374 in the year 2010). This increase was accompanied by changes in the age structure of the Bierkowice population - even in the year 2004, an average age was over six years higher than the average for Opole in general. In the successive years, it decreased. Now, the majority of inhabitants are 30-39 years old. The value of a feminization rate is significantly lower than the one counted for the whole area of Opole.

In the successive years, a further increase in the number of inhabitants (about 550 inhabitants until the year 2020) and "rejuvenation" of the Bierkowice inhabitants (pointed to by a positive birth-rate) are forecasted. However, in the scale of the whole city this increase will not be very significant because of small number of inhabitants in this district.

The Chabry residential area



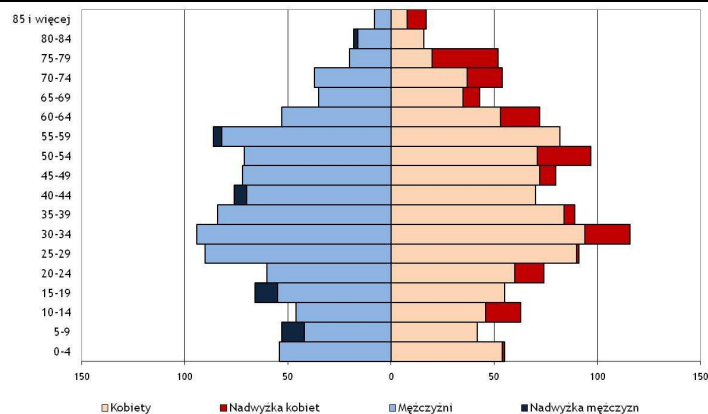
The Chabry residential area is situated in the centre of Opole, east from the central city zone (Śródmieście). It forms a north-eastern part of the residential and service development of the city. Apart from a convenient location, it is not one of the most attractive city areas. Multifamily residential development, with characteristic multi-storey block of flats, is predominant here. Numerous basic needs objects (trade, gastronomy, education, health, etc) are also present in this area.

Since 2005, there is a decrease in the number of inhabitants in this district. The main cause of this situation is an outflow of inhabitants to other parts of Opole or outside the city. In the years 2005-2010, the migration balance was negative. The residential district is ageing – an average, statistical age of inhabitants has been increasing. The participation of people at the post-working age increases and the participation of people at the working age decreases. In the mid 2010, there were 6.7 thousand people living in the Chabry residential area. The most numerous was the group of inhabitants at the age between 60 and 64 years old.

Until the year 2020, a big decrease (by 1.6 thousand people) in the number of the Chabry residential area is forecasted. A demographic ageing process of this subpopulation will deepen. The average age of the Chabry inhabitants – which is relatively high today (45.1) – will increase and in the year 2020 it will exceed 51 years.

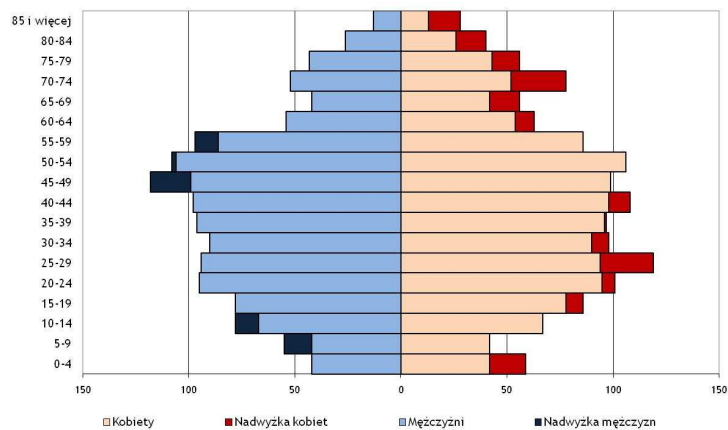
Gosławice

Because of favourable physiographic conditions, the area of Gosławice is mainly a residential area. In the mid 2010, there were 2.2 thousand inhabitants living in this area, which is by 70 more than in the year 2004. A development of residential areas and a technical and social infrastructure next to them causes that these areas are still gaining attractiveness. Gosławice is one of few parts of Opole characterized by a positive migration balance. The average age of inhabitants in this district is also low (about 40 years old). This is a development area from a demographic point of view. A percentage of people at the working age increases, however it is significantly lower now than the base value. The subpopulation ageing process in Gosławice is much slower than in other parts of the city and it has a smaller scope.



By the year 2020, it is forecasted that the number of inhabitants will have been increasing systematically (up to 2.5 thousand people). However, with the flow of years, a participation of people at the post-working age will increase in the subpopulation of Gosławice. It will be expressed in the increase of an economic dependency ratio with people at the post-working age.

Groszowice



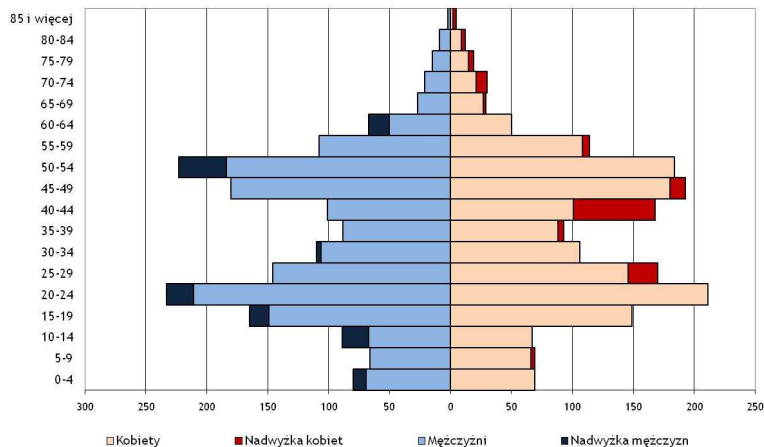
In the years 2004-2009 the number of inhabitants of Groszowice was maintained at more or less the same level of about 2.7 thousand of inhabitants. An average age of inhabitants is equal to 41.6 and is slightly lower than the average age counted for the whole population of Opole (the base value).

The feminization rate is here lower than in the city, what is caused among others by a bigger number of men in the age group from 45 to 59 years (this is an anomaly in view of the whole city area). A percentage of people at the post-working age increases, although this increase is slower than in the other areas. Migrations of people do not have and will not have any influence on the subpopulation number.

By the year 2020, the number of inhabitants in Groszowice will have slightly decreased because of a low birth-rate. A preponderance of people at the post-working age over the ones at the pre-working age will be well-visible. The ageing process of the society will determine the number of people from the area of Groszowice.

Grotowice

The number of inhabitants in Grotowice has been kept at more or less the same level of about 3.5 thousand people since the year 2006. In comparison with other districts of Opole, the subpopulation of Grotowice can be said to be demographically young. The average age of people inhabiting this area is equal to 36.8, which is by 6 years less than the average age counted for Opole

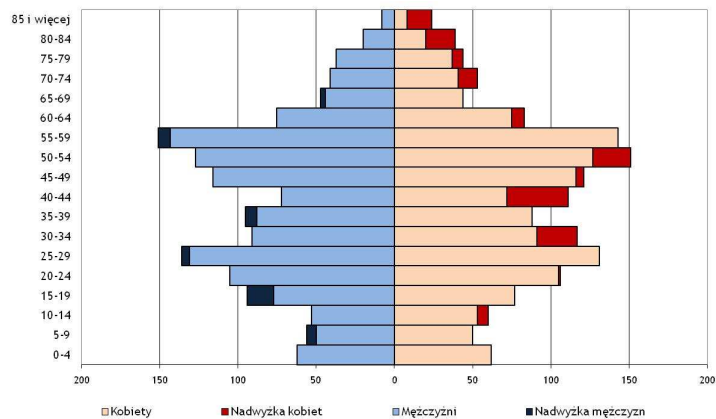


in total. The birth-rate and the migration balance are positive.

A characteristic feature of this subpopulation is a very low percentage of people at the post-working age and a higher than the average for the city percentage of people at the pre-working age. The most numerous group is formed by young people at the age between 20-24 years old and people between 50 and 54 years old. However, this population also becomes older and older and the “ageing” process goes slightly faster than in other parts of the city.

It is forecasted that by the year 2020, the number of inhabitants in the Grotowice district will have slightly increased by about 7%. This district will remain a relatively demographically young area – the preponderance of people at the pre-working age will be maintained.

Grudzice



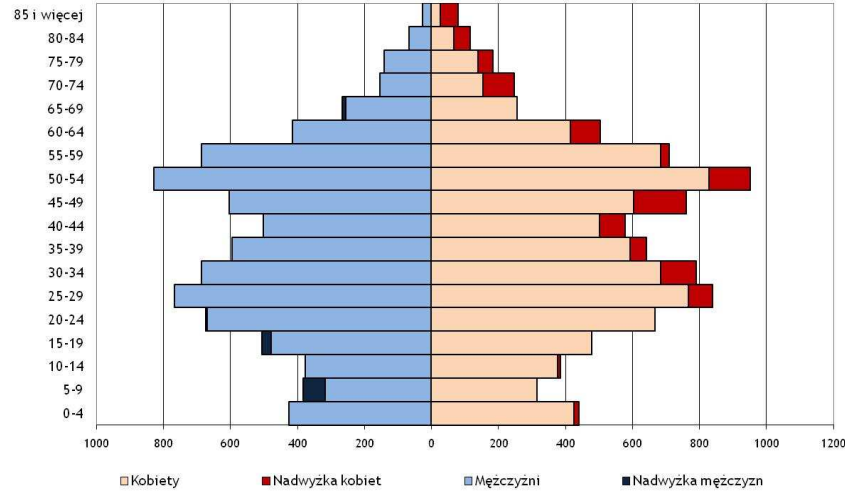
Since the year 2004, there has been a slight increase in the number of people in Grudzice. In the year 2010, this district had almost 2.9 thousand inhabitants. The average age of the inhabitants was about 41.5 years old and it was slightly lower than the average for the city in total.

This population is relatively young. Mostly people between the age of 19 and 65 live in Grudzice (70% of the subpopulation). A feminization rate is also significantly lower than the base amount. However, this society is also slowly ageing – there are more and more people at the post-working age each year. Since the year 2008, there has been a preponderance of this group over the group of people at the pre-working age. A positive real population growth in the area of this district takes place also thanks to a positive migration balance.

It is forecasted that by the year 2020, the number of inhabitants will have slightly increased thanks to the influx of new inhabitants. The average age of inhabitants will have increased by 2 years. The economic dependency ratio will have also increased significantly.

Kolonia Gosławicka

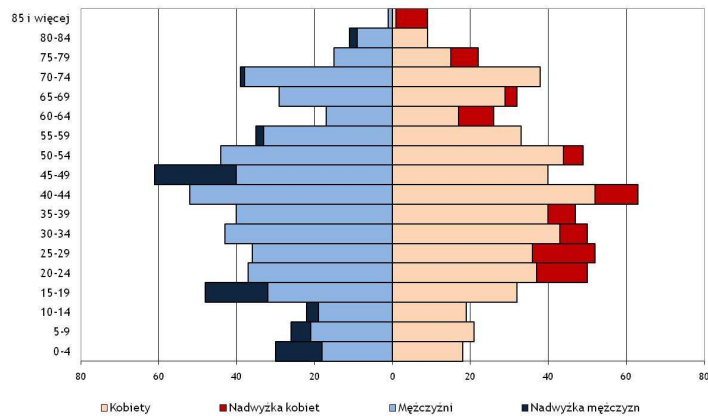
There were over 17 thousand people living in Kolonia Gosławicka in the year 2010. In comparison to other areas of Opole, this is an area which is demographically “younger”. The average age of the inhabitants did not exceed 39 years, so it was lower by 3 years from the average age counted for the whole city (the base amount).



A relatively high percentage of people at the pre-working age (16.1%, which is by 1.5% more than the base amount) and a low percentage of people at the post-working age (13%, which is by 7.2 percentage point lower than the base amount) are characteristic for this population. A preponderance of people at the pre-working age against the people at the post-working age amounts to nearly 3%. A feminization rate is also significantly lower, which since the year 2007 has been kept at a similar level (of about 110) as well as the economic dependency ratio is maintained at more or less the same level;

It is forecasted that in the year 2020, the number of inhabitants of Kolonia Gosławicka will have increased up to 17.8 thousand in the year 2020 and a significant increase of an economic dependency ratio with people at the post-working age will be seen, especially since the year 2013. However, still over 78% of inhabitants will not live longer than 65 years.

Malina



In the years 2004-2010, there were almost 1.2 thousand people in the area of Malina. This is one of the worst populated parts of Opole.

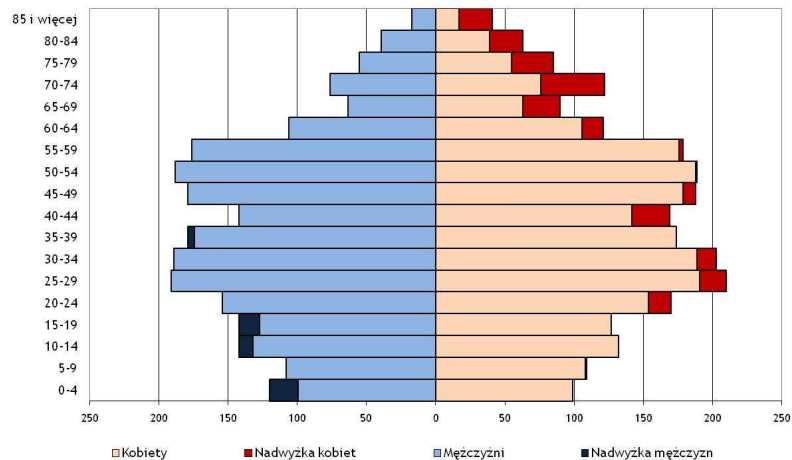
The average age of inhabitants in Malina is kept at the level close to the base value (41.2 years old). A feminization rate and an economic dependency ratio receive values much lower than the average for the city (accordingly 103.9 and 50.6%). It is a good forecast for the future. Migrations are slight and they do not have a high influence on the demographic situation of this area.

It is forecasted that by the year 2020, the number of inhabitants of Malina will have slightly decreased, whereas the economic dependency ratio at the pre-working age and at the post-working age will have increased.

Nowa Wieś Królewska

Nowa Wieś Królewska has about 4.8 thousand inhabitants. Since the year 2004, an increase in the amount of people by 2.6% has taken place and it was connected among others with the management of lands of the former Bolko cement plant for residential purposes.

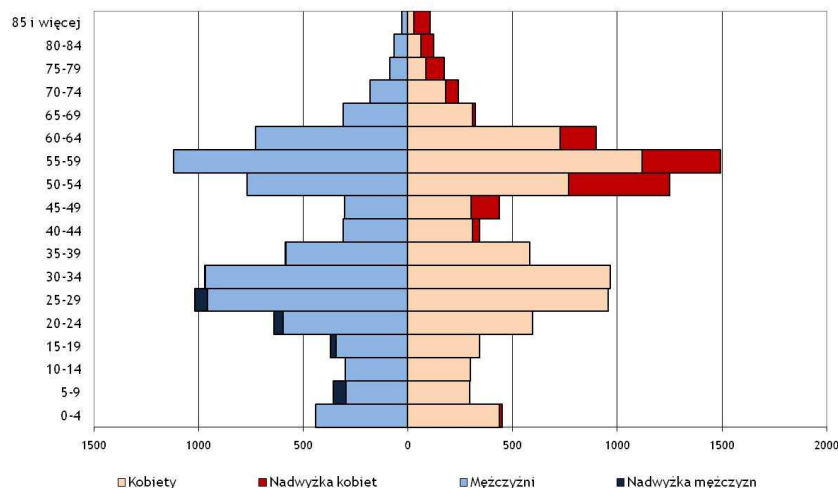
The average age of inhabitants of this district is lower than the base amount, what is characteristic



for districts located outside the city central zone. The number of inhabitants at the pre-working age is slightly higher than the number of people at the post-working age. A percentage of people at the pre-working age is one of the highest among all Opole districts. Currently, it is a relatively demographically “young” population. The society ageing process of this district goes slower than in its other parties. A feminization rate is also much lower- in the year 2010 this value was lower than the base value by 6.4 year.

It is forecasted that by the year 2020, the number of inhabitants will have been gradually increasing up to 5 thousand people. This increase is caused mainly by an influx of new inhabitants (a positive migration balance). It will be an old society - the average age of inhabitants will increase up to the age of 42.1 years old. The number of people at the post-working age will increase by 29.5%.

The Armii Krajowej residential area (AK)



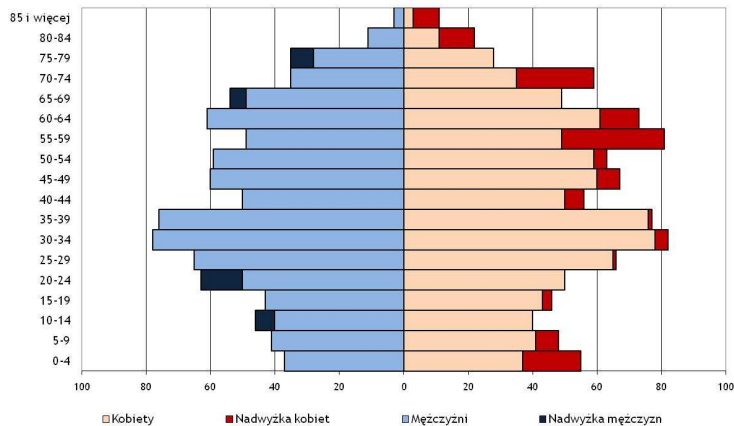
The Armii Krajowej residential area is the biggest residential area in Opole. In the year 2010, 18.4 thousand people have been living here. Since the year 2004, the number of its inhabitants has been decreasing systematically (within the scope of the last 6 years by 7.3%). The average age is slightly lower (by almost 1 year) than the base amount.

The society of the AK residential area is an ageing population. A feminization rate in this area increases faster than the base amount. The percentage of people at the post-working age increases fast. The migration balance is very high: the number of inhabitants decreases each year from 150 to 340 inhabitants. All of this makes an extremely regressive character of this subpopulation.

It is forecasted that by the year 2020, the number of inhabitants will have been decreasing. If the migration speed does not change, it is forecasted that at the end of this period, the AK residential area will have only 15.6 thousand inhabitants which is by 15.1 % fewer than it is now and the average age will have increased to 48 years old. - The economic dependency ratio with people at the post-working age will have increased up to 76.6% and will be the highest in the whole city.

Półwieś

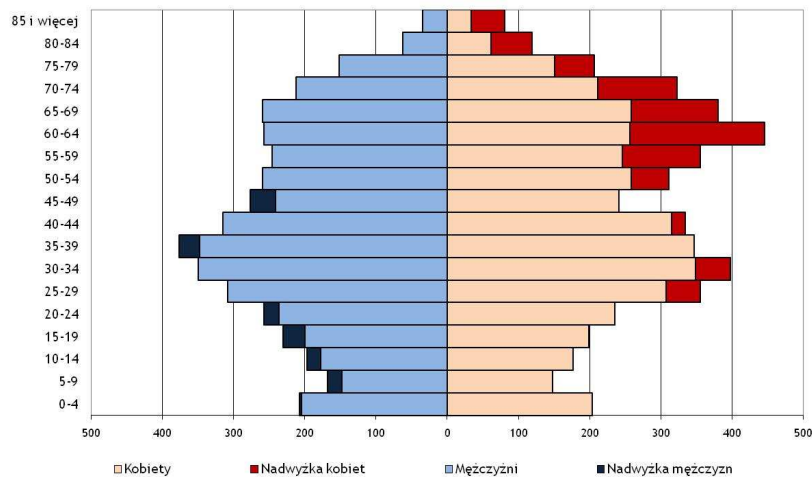
In the year 2010, there were almost 1.9 thousand inhabitants in Półwieś. Since 2004 a systematic increase in the amount of inhabitants living in this part of the city took place. The average age of



inhabitants is slightly lower than the base amount and the number of people at the post-working age exceeds the number of people at the pre-working age. The economic dependency ratio with people at this age is relatively high and it amounts to 62.4%. The feminization rate has also a high value, higher than the base amount.

Currently, it is one of the oldest parts of Opole as far as demography is concerned. In the last years, an influx of new inhabitants took place. A further development of the number of people inhabiting Półwieś is expected in connection with the development of residential estates. Demographic forecasts for this area are good: the economic dependency ratio and the feminization rate will have lower values in the year 2020 than in the year 2010 and the average age will remain unchanged.

Szczepanowice

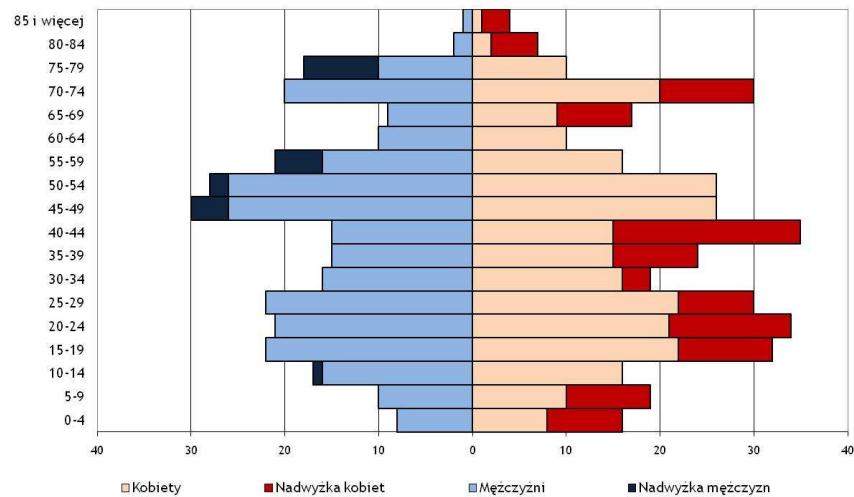


Szczepanowice is one of the "oldest" parts of the city from the point of view of demography. In the year 2010, there were 9 thousand people in this area. The average age was one of the highest in Opole: 43.8 years old and the feminization rate was 117.1. The economical structure of the population of this part of the city is unfavourable. The number of people at the post-working age is higher than the number of people at the pre-working age. In connection with it, the economic dependency ratio for the subpopulation of Szczepanowice will have a very high value of 68.3%. The migration balance has been negative since the year 2004. It caused a big decrease in the number of inhabitants, by 335 people in the last 6 years.

The Szczepanowice district belongs to the fastest ageing parts of the city as far as demography is concerned. It is forecasted that within 10 years the feminization rate will increase by 1.4 percentage point and the economic dependency ratio of the population will increase even by 13.3%. At the same time, the number of inhabitants of Szczepanowice will decrease by about 1.4 thousand.

Wójtowa Wieś

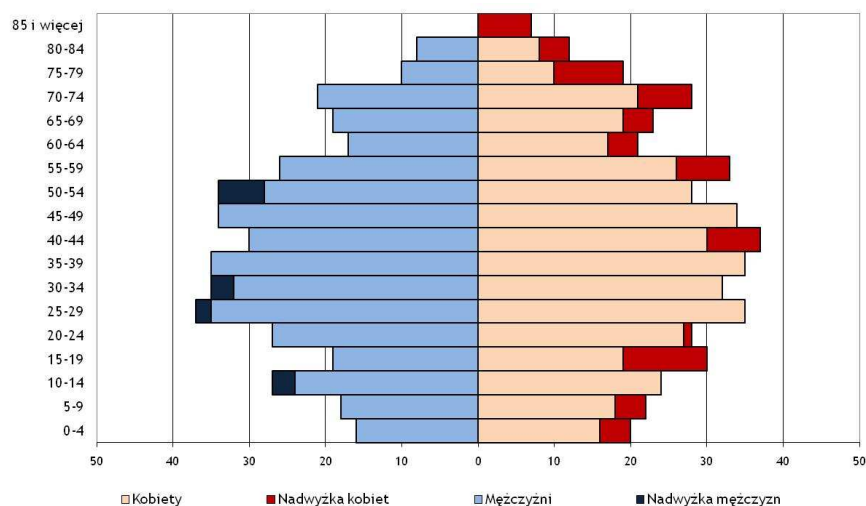
The area of Wójtowa Wieś is located in the residential area of Opole. The number of inhabitants is kept at a stable level. In the year 2010, there were 656 Opole inhabitants living in Wójtowa Wieś. The average age of inhabitants is lower by one year than the base amount. The population structure



is indicated on the basis of the data concerning the economic age of inhabitants and is close to the economical structures of the age groups of the whole city society. Whereas, the feminization rate is much higher (there are 130 women per 100 men). Since the year 2008, the migration balance has been positive. Migrations do not have a big influence on the subpopulation number in Wójtowa Wieś.

By the year 2020, a slight and slow increase in the number of inhabitants and an increase of the economic dependency ratio are forecasted.

Wróblin

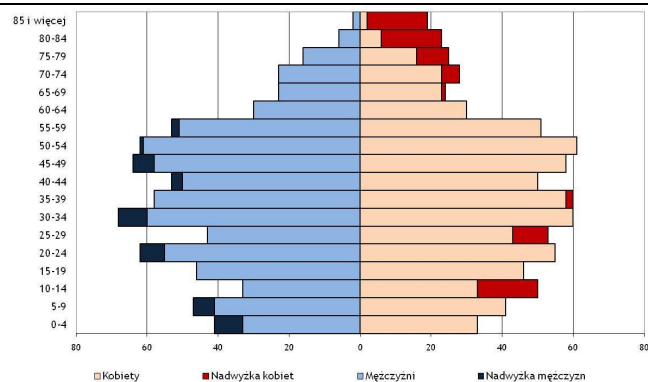


Wróblin is located in the residential area in the north-western part of Opole. In 2010, there were 889 inhabitants and it belonged to the worst populated parts of Opole (after Bierkowice and Wójtowa Wieś). The average age of Wróblin inhabitants was lower than the base amount by 1.2 year. The number of people at the post-working age exceeded the number of people at the pre-working age.

It is forecasted that there will be a slow decrease in the number of inhabitants in the years 2010-2020 (up to 850 in the year 2020). The process of the Wróblin population ageing will progress. Its external sign will be an increase in the average age of inhabitants and a significant increase in the economic dependency ratio with people at the post-working age.

Zakrzów

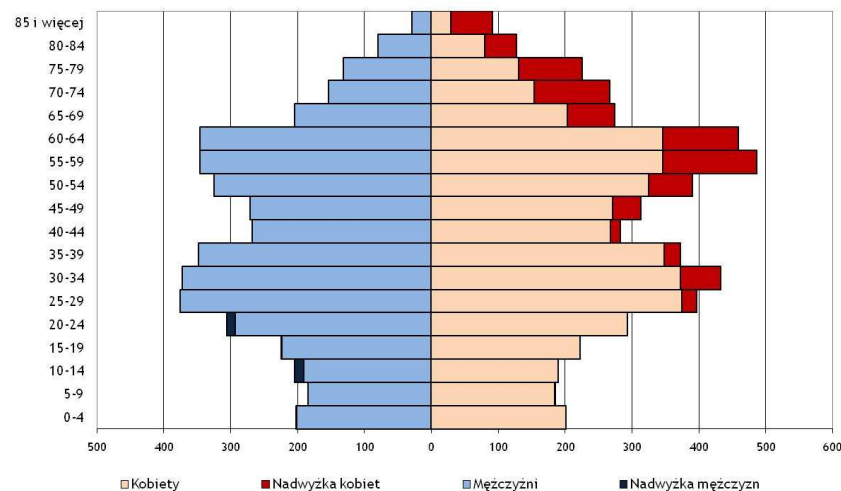
The Zakrzów district is situated in the economic activity zone. Industry and services prevail in this part of the city, although there are also some residential parts of this district. Since 2004, the number



of inhabitants of this district has been kept at more or less the same level of about 1.5 thousand people. The average age of inhabitants of this district and the feminization rate are lower than the base amounts. The participation of people at the pre-working age is also higher and the participation of people at the post-working age in the total number of inhabitants of this part of the city is lower, what is a rare phenomenon in Opole districts.

It is forecasted that by the year 2020, the number of inhabitants of Zakrzów will have increased by 12.1%. The process of demographic ageing of the Zakrzów society will be slow. In the year 2019, the number of people at the post-working age will exceed the number of people at the pre-working age. The economic dependency ratio with the population at the post-working age will also increase.

Zaodrze



Zaodrze is situated in the residential area in the western part of the city. There are multifamily and one-family houses and services such as: trade, education, administration, sport, etc.

In the year 2010, there were 9.6 thousand people living in this part of the city. Within the previous 6 years, the number of inhabitants decreased by 5.6%. It is connected with the outflow of people from this area - the migration balance has been high and low for several last years as far as the absolute value is concerned.

The average age of the Zaodrze inhabitants is higher than the base amount. The percentage of people at the post-working age and the feminization rate are higher than the average. The percentage of inhabitants at the pre-working age is lower. These are features of the ageing society. These forecasts show that by the year 2020, the number of people will have been decreasing successively. The economic dependency ratio with people at the post-working age will have increased significantly up to the level of 62.3%.

Number of inhabitants in Opole until the year 2020 (a forecast)

The forecast of the number of Opole inhabitants in the years 2010-2020 was made in four versions:

1. biological
2. stagnation
3. regression
4. increase¹⁷

All versions state that the number of Opole inhabitants will have decreased by the year 2020

Table 1 A forecast of the number of inhabitants according to versions for the years 2009-2020

Year	A biological forecast	A post-migration forecast - the version of a stagnation	A post-migration forecast - the version of an increase	A post-migration forecast - the regression version	The real state
2009	128 345	125 392	126 745	124 845	125 792
2010	127 915	124 537	126 115	123 915	125 722 (30 th June 2010)
2011	127 442	123 631	125 442	122 942	
2012	126 926	122 682	124 726	121 926	
2013	126 370	121 690	123 970	120 870	
2014	125 771	120 658	123 171	119 771	
2015	125 132	119 583	122 332	118 632	
2016	124 452	118 468	121 452	117 452	
2017	123 730	117 312	120 530	116 230	
2018	122 973	116 114	119 573	114 973	
2019	122 181	114 881	118 581	113 681	
2020	121 353	113 613	117 553	112 353	

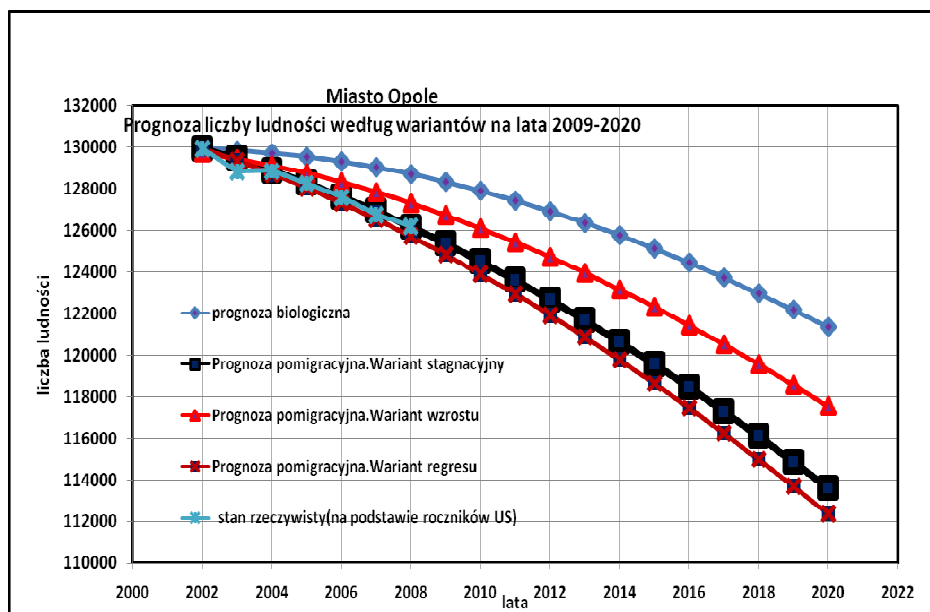
Source: Szczygielski K. *Otoczenie globalne i europejskie. Ludność ogółem – prognoza demograficzna dla miasta Opola do 2020 roku; w: Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestolecie 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r., WSZiA Opole 2009, s. 145 (Szczygielski K., *Global and European surroundings. The population number in total – a demographic forecast for Opole until the year 2020 in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020, Opole 2009, p. 145)**

On the basis of the research concerning a possible course of demographic processes in Opole, it has been agreed that **the medium version between the version of an increase and the version of a stagnation is the most probable**. According to this version, Opole will have 115.5 thousand

¹⁷ In the **stagnation version**, the process of demographic changes will be at the current (2000-2008), stable level (no radical changes in the natural migration balance); An increase in the number of inhabitants and/or an improvement in the age structure are possible in the **development version**. A decrease in the number of inhabitants and unfavourable changes in the age structure of the population are possible in the **regression version**. The forecast in the **biological version** does not take into account the migration movement of the population.

inhabitants in the year 2020, that is fewer by about 10.3 thousand than at the end of the year 2009.¹⁸

Figure 17 Demographic growth forecast for Opole by the year 2020



Source: Szczygielski K. *Otoczenie globalne i europejskie. Ludność ogółem – prognoza demograficzna dla miasta Opola do 2020 roku*; w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, WSZiA Opole 2009, s. 145 (Szczygielski K., *Global and European surroundings. The population number in total – a demographic forecast for Opole until the year 2020 in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 145)

Significant changes in the age structure of the city population and shifts between particular age groups connected with them will take place together with a change in the population number:

1. a decrease in the population number in connection with a low birth-rate
2. an “escape” of human resources from the mobile group to the non-mobile group
3. a sudden increase in the number of people at the post-working age
4. a reduplication of people at the age 85+¹⁹

The analyses show that “apart from the change in the population number (...) a change in the age structure is also important – from the relatively young regional society in the direction of a society composed of people at the post-working age”²⁰ The life expectancy will be prolonged. By

¹⁸ Source: Szczygielski K. *Otoczenie globalne i europejskie. Ludność ogółem – prognoza demograficzna dla miasta Opola do 2020 roku*; w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, WSZiA Opole 2009, s. 147 (Szczygielski K., *Global and European surroundings. The population number in total – a demographic forecast for Opole until the year 2020 in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 147)

¹⁹ Source: Szczygielski K. *Otoczenie globalne i europejskie. Ludność ogółem – prognoza demograficzna dla miasta Opola do 2020 roku*; w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, WSZiA Opole 2009, s. 147 (Szczygielski K., *Global and European surroundings. The population number in total – a demographic forecast for Opole until the year 2020 in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 147)

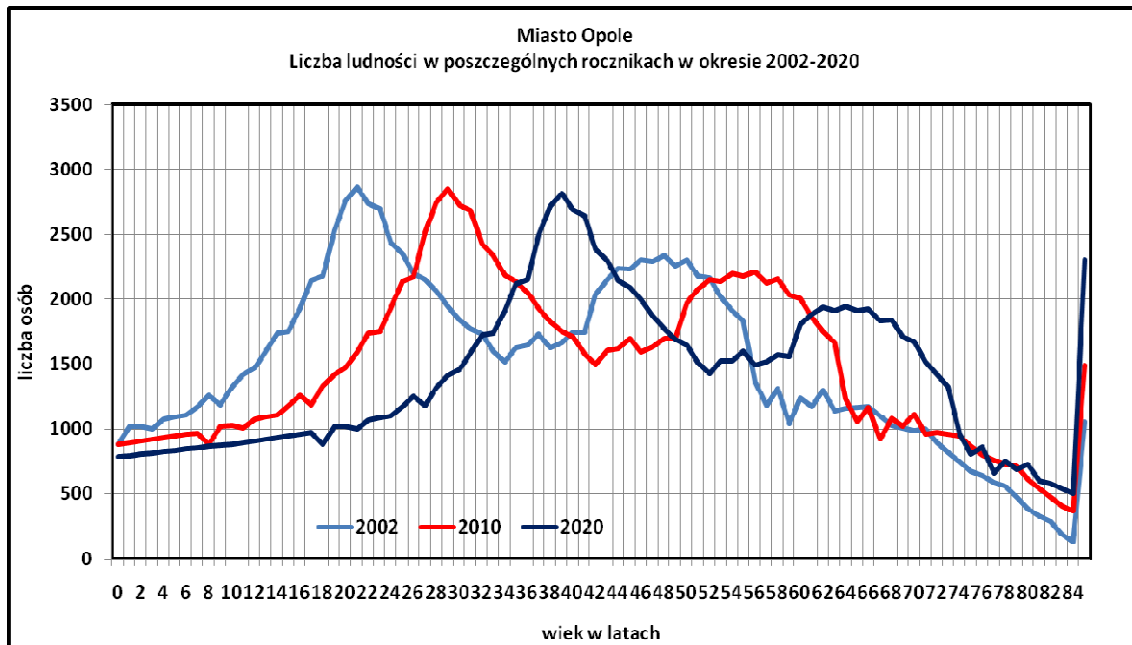
²⁰ Source: Szczygielski K. *Otoczenie globalne i europejskie. Ludność ogółem – prognoza demograficzna dla miasta Opola do 2020 roku*; w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, WSZiA Opole 2009, s. 154 (Szczygielski K., *Global and European surroundings. The population number in total – a demographic forecast for Opole until the year 2020 in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 154)

the year 2020, the life expectancy of men will have been prolonged to 73.4 years and the life expectancy of women will have been prolonged to 80 years.

Taking into consideration social and economic results of demographic transformations, the following processes can be expected to be seen in Opole by the year 2020:

1. Stabilization of the migration abroad and the internal migration balance.
2. Acceleration of emigration from cities to rural areas.

Figure 18 Number of inhabitants in given yearbooks in the years 2002, 2010 and 2020



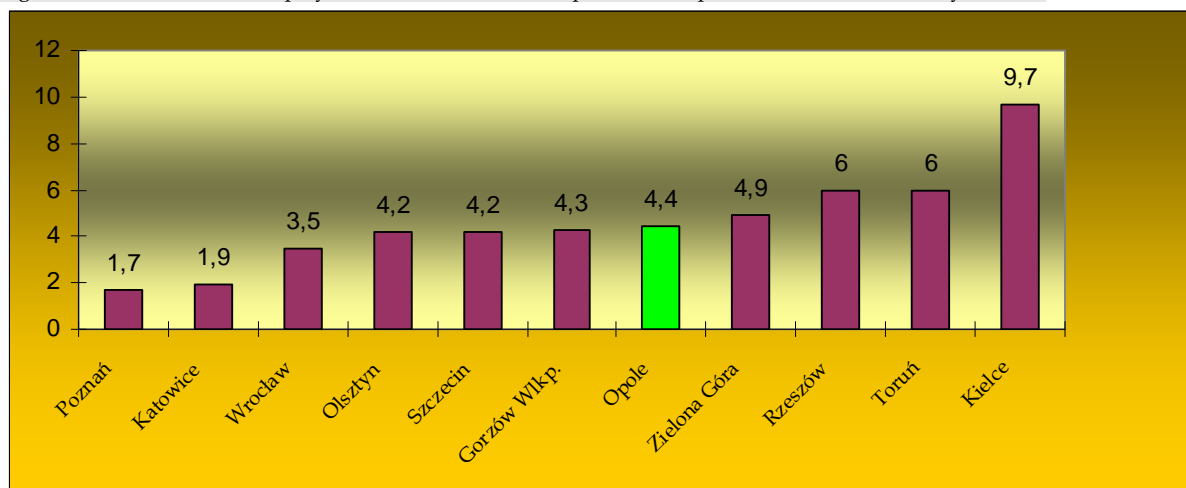
Source: Szczygielski K. *Otoczenie globalne i europejskie. Ludność ogółem – prognoza demograficzna dla miasta Opola do 2020 roku*; w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestolecie 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, WSZiA Opole 2009, s. 147 (Szczygielski K., *Global and European surroundings. The population number in total – a demographic forecast for Opole until the year 2020 in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 147)

3. INFLUENCE OF POPULATION CHANGES ON THE SITUATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET AND THE LIVING STANDARD OF INHABITANTS

Opole is a strong and stable regional labour market. It has a high potential of jobs at its disposal – what is well-visible thanks to a relatively low unemployment rate and a high percentage of working people – and a big productive and investment potential, which makes it the best economic leader in the region.

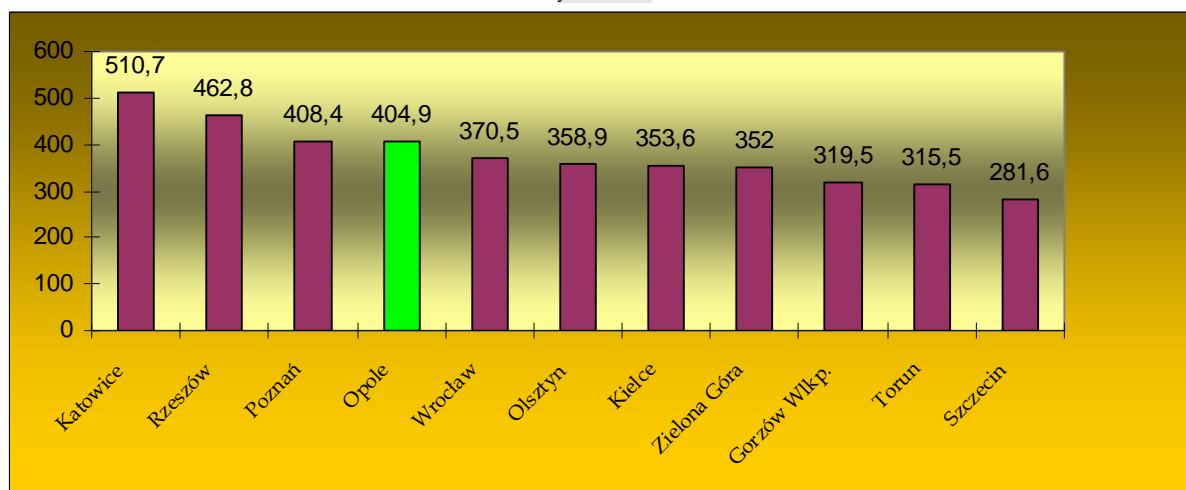
At the end of the year 2008, the unemployment rate amounted to the level of 4.4%. Over 400 people were employed per 1000 inhabitants. It placed Opole “in the middle” of the analysed cities.

Figure 19 The unemployment rate in the chosen capital cities of provinces in Poland in the year 2008.



Source: Own analysis made on the basis of the data presented in:
 Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s.46 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 46).

Figure 20 The number of working people per 1000 inhabitants in the chosen capital cities of provinces in Poland in the year 2008.

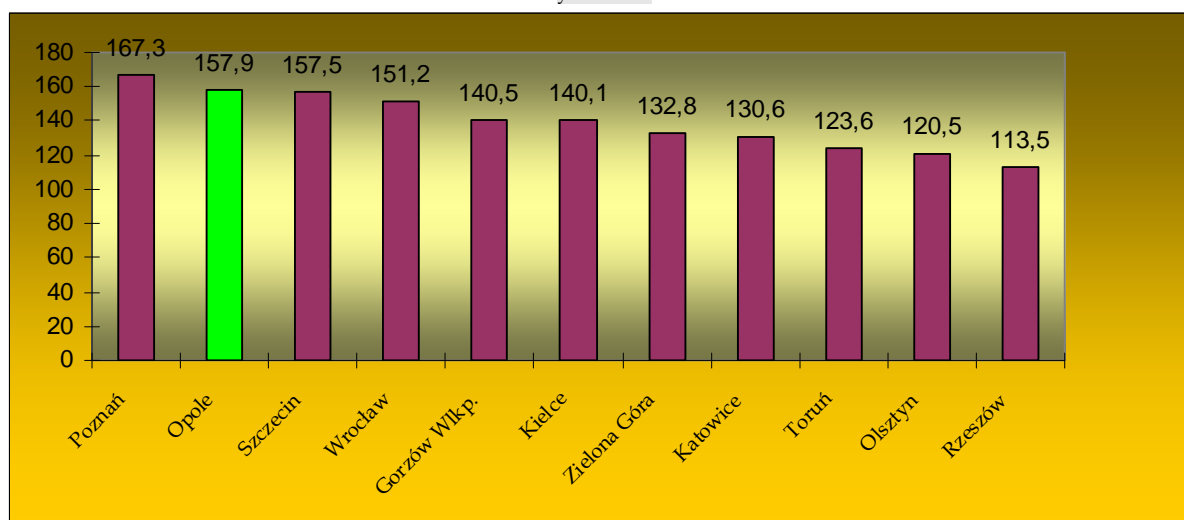


Source: Own analysis made on the basis of the data presented in:
 Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s.48 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 48).

The economic crisis in the world, started by the financial market collapse in North America at the end of the year 2008, had a huge influence on the global economy. It caused a well-visible economic slowdown, noticeable at different degrees in the whole world economy and the deepening of inequalities between the supply and demand for jobs. This is why, an unemployment rate and dynamics are one of the most credible measures of the economic and financial stability and a good social condition in a given area. In January 2010, the unemployment rate in the UE amounted to 9.5%, which means that in the previous year there was an increase by 1.5%.

In May 2010, the unemployment rate in Poland was equal to 11.9, and in the Opole province it amounted to 12.5%.²¹ At the same time, the unemployment rate in Opole was much lower and the unemployment rate was equal to about 6.5%.²²

Figure 21 The number of business units per 1000 inhabitants in the chosen capital cities of provinces in Poland in the year 2008.



Source: Own analysis made on the basis of the data presented in:

Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s. 49 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 49).

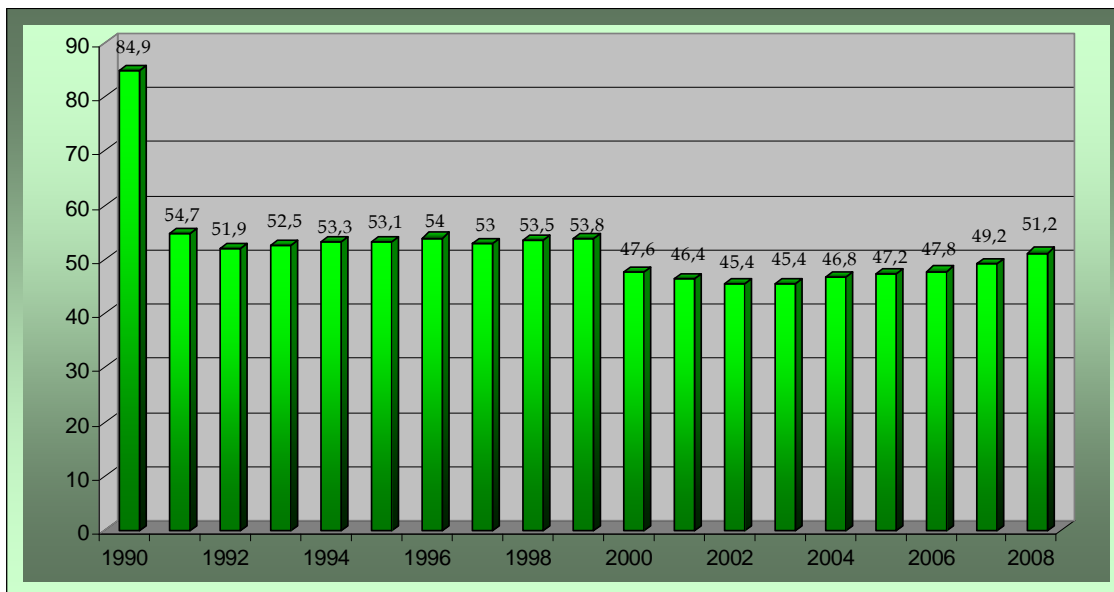
Opole is **the city of enterprising people and the city supporting entrepreneurs**. It has been present in the list of top Polish cities, for many years, in which the enterprising rate amounts to the highest amounts. At the end of June 2010, there were 19965 registered business units in Opole.²³ It means that there are nearly 160 business units per 1000 Opole inhabitants. In comparison to December 2009, the overall number of business units in Opole has increased by 44.

²¹ www.gus.pl

²² http://www.stat.gov.pl/cps/rde/xbcr/opole/ASSETS_kom_05_2010.pdf

²³ *Komunikat o sytuacji społeczno-gospodarczej województwa opolskiego – czerwiec 2010 r.*, Urząd Statystyczny w Opolu, Opole 2010, s. 4 (*An announcement about the social and economic situation of the Opole Province – June 2010*; The Statistical Office in Opole, Opole 2010, p. 4)

Figure 22 The number of working people in Opole in the years 1990-1999 in the main place of work in thousand.

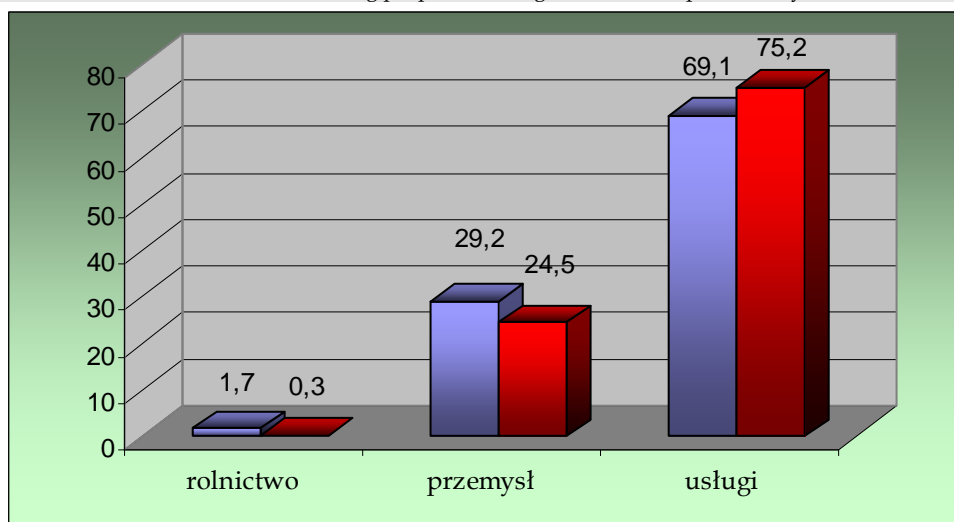


Source: Own analysis made on the basis of the data presented in:

Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s. 90, 92 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, pp. 90, 92).

The number of working Opole inhabitants has been increasing systematically since the year 2002. The majority of them is employed in the (market and non-market) service sector. In comparison to the year 2000, the participation of this group of working people in the total number of the employed increased significantly (by 6.1%). At the same time, the employment rate in the industry (by 4.7%) and in the agriculture (by 1.4%), in which only 0.3% of Opole inhabitants work, decreased.

Figure 23 The structure of working people according to sectors in Opole in the years 2000 and 2008 in %



Source: Own analysis made on the basis of the data presented in:

Żurawska J.: Potencjał demograficzny Opola a przestrzeń regionalna, krajowa i europejska, w: *Obraz demograficzny Opola w dwudziestoleciu 1989-2009 wraz z prognozą zmian ludnościowych do 2020 r.*, Opole 2009, s. 101 (Żurawska J., *A demographic potential of Opole vs. a regional, national and European area in: A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes until 2020*, Opole 2009, p. 101).

Demographic forecasts for Opole show that between the years 2010-2020, there will be a well-visible **decrease in the human resource** from 85.8 thousand to 75.7 thousand people at the working age in the year 2020, that is by 10.1 thousand people.²⁴ However, these forecasts do not take into account step

changes of the migration abroad balance. Opening of markets abroad in the year 2011, especially the absorptive German market, can cause an intensive outflow of well-qualified employees and an occurrence of an inequality in the labour market.

Table 2 An overall balance of human resources in the years 2010-2015-2020

Education	2010	2015	2020	Increase (decrease) in thousands	
				2010-2015	2016-2020
1. Inhabitants at the working age in thousands of people	85.8	80.7	75.7	-5.1	-5.0
2. Professionally active inhabitants	60.1	56.5	53.0	-3.1	-3.5
3. Existing unemployment (in thousands of people)	3.1	2.5	2.0	-0.6	-0.5
5. The stable migration balance for job reasons	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-	-

Source: The analysis of WSZiA in Opole ; Data: The population forecast according to age in the division into districts in the years 2000-2020, GUS (the Main Statistical Office), Warsaw 2000, p. 64

Having taken into consideration employment indices in the year 2020, the net human resources in Opole will amount to:

- the low version 43.9 thousand people (the employment rate 58.0%)
- the medium version 49.2 thousand people (the employment rate 65.0%)
- the high version 53.7 thousand people (the employment rate 70.0%)

It means that the real human resources possible to be employed will have decreased by the year 2020 by nearly 6.6 thousand people. It will cause the lack of balance between the work supply and available human resources, especially in the so-called scarce professions.

The professional activity is main factor forming living conditions and preventing social exclusion. In this scope, it is necessary to expect that by the year 2020:

1. "Professional activity of young people at the age of 15-24 years old will have remained at the stable, unchanged level (what is well-visible in very high gross enrolment ratios in higher education institutions),
2. professional activity of women at the age of 18-34 years will have increased as a result of an improvement of education and a rise of the age of getting married,
3. professional activity of men at the age of 18-54 years will have been very high and can rise only a little,
4. professional activity of over 50-year-old men will have decreased, what is and will be a very unfavourable phenomenon from the point of view of social policy,
5. professional activity of men at the retirement age will have decreased.

6. the education level of young people entering the labour market will have increased.”²⁵

In the years 2010-2020 a big changeability of demographic structures of big importance for the development of Opole will take place. Changes in the number of the youngest inhabitants (0-2, 3-6 years old) will define the changing demand for different forms of childcare (day nurseries, kindergartens, other forms of childcare, etc.) and an increase in the professional activity of young women. The number of 7-18 year-old young people will define educational needs. Whereas, the number of people entering into the working age determines the demand for new working places. In the successive years, by the year 2020, the demand will have decreased. The increase in the number of people at the post-working age determines the needs in the scope of a vast social security and medical care. The ageing process of Opole inhabitants until the year 2020, will have an important influence on the increase in the scale and intensity of social needs of this group of people. A demographic forecast shows that there will also be an increase in the number of disabled people. There is an urgent need of development of modern forms of support of this group of inhabitants.

What is more, a need of an increase in the professional activity of the city inhabitants is well-visible, especially in case of people at the age of 50 and older. It is necessary to take actions which will make it possible to extend the period of professional activity of this group of people: stopping them in the labour market or delaying the moment of their retiring.

4. RECOMMENDATION FOR THE CITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY ²⁶

A demographic development of Opole until the year 2020 makes new challenges which the social and economic development of the city should meet. They concern a creation of favourable conditions supporting the family development and ensuring work and an appropriate quality of life to the city inhabitants.

No	Priority (P) / aims (C) / actions (D)	Hints and recommendations	Justification
P1	ENSURING APPROPRIATE WAY OF LIVING TO ALL INHABITANTS		
	C1.1	Forming the space and buildings in a way facilitating the realization of life needs to inhabitants	
	D1.1.1	Preparation of lands designed to become residential areas	1. Districts and areas in Opole characterized by a high positive migration balance should have a priority in the preparation of lands to become residential areas..
			A big influx of new inhabitants to these districts in the last few years makes it possible to think that they are characterized by attractive residential conditions. The creation of conditions for the construction of buildings in these areas will cause stopping or slowing down of the suburbanization process which is unfavourable for the city (the outflow of inhabitants and at the same time a decrease in the profit resulting from income taxes of the people who still use public services and the services of the city infrastructure).

²⁵ Source: *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o.o., Poznań 2010, s.84 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 84)

²⁶ *Uwarunkowania demograficzne przemian społeczno-gospodarczych w Opolu – rekomendacje dla polityki rozwoju miasta w latach 2010-2020*, Public Profits sp. z o.o., Poznań 2010, s. 90 (*Demographic conditionings of social and economic changes in Opole – recommendations for the city development policy in the years 2010 – 2020*, Public Profits, Poznań 2010, p. 90)

		D1.1.2	Land development plan of squares, green areas of the city – creating new recreational and rest areas in the city, completing of protective green areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of green areas in the area of “old housing estates” 2. Development of green areas in the area characterized by a high, positive migration balance. 	In connection with the development of some of the Opole districts, it is necessary to ensure a possibility of resting and practicing sport to all Opole inhabitants by means of a development of green areas, especially in the poor parts of the city. Revitalization and creation of green areas will have a positive influence on the image of districts thought to be unattractive until now (for example, bleak housing projects characterized by a negative migration balance).
		D1.1.3	Development and modernization of the network of sports fields.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction and modernization of sport buildings in the areas characterised by a low density of sport units. 	It is recommended to adjust the construction of new buildings to the distribution of the existing sport buildings and fields (it was presented in the study with a division into districts) and in the areas of a forecasted, high participation of people at the pre-working age (these areas were also mentioned in this paper).
	C1.2	Realization of residential needs of inhabitants with low income			
		D1.2.1	Increasing the stock of social housing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increasing the level of economic disproportion and the population ageing make it necessary to create a whole stock of social housing. 	In a document entitled: “A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes of Opole until the year 2020” it is forecasted that economic disproportions will occur among the city inhabitants and that the number of poor people will increase what will cause among others an increase in the demand for social housing for people in hard financial situations. In the next years, a group of people making a living out of non-profit making sources (such as pensions and disability pensions) will increase. These people’s income is in general much lower than the income of people making a living out of profit-making sources. The City Council has to choose the areas in which the buildings will be located. This choice should be conditioned by an availability of areas favourable to investments of this kind (the most precious areas should be used for buildings available to general public and commercial purposes).
		D1.2.2	Type of social housing		
	C1.3	Systematic improvement of the water, soil and air condition			
		D1.3.1	Investments in public buildings for the sake of the air pollution prevention (thermo-modernizations, modernizations, the exchange of heat sources)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modernization of buildings of the so-called “old housing” 	"Old housing" areas are characterized by a negative migration balance. An improvement of housing conditions as well as decreasing of costs necessary to maintain the housing can cause an increased attractiveness of these areas and it will result in decreasing of the negative migration balance of inhabitants living in these areas.
		D1.3.2	Revitalization of commercial waste landfills and polluted areas and grounds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using the post-industrial areas for the development of construction, public services and recreation 	Using the post-industrial areas increases the “usable area” of the city and transforms unattractive areas or areas degraded as a result of industrial activity into areas having a good influence on the quality of life. Residential housing (stopping of the suburbanization) can be introduced in the area where it is possible. It is also necessary to continue activities connected with revitalization and regaining of post-industrial areas, designing them for business purposes, services and recreation.
		D1.4.1	Construction and development of water and sewage system, transmission and storing devices and water treatment devices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Construction works making and creating new installation systems in accordance with the (current and forecasted needs). 	Development and modernization of water and sewage system should be adjusted to the needs of inhabitants – the forecasted number of inhabitants in the area of particular districts determines the estimated demand for services and systems of this type.
		D1.4.2	Construction of the storm water drainage and the sanitary sewage system		

	C1.5				
		D1.5.1	Preparation of emergency services to counteract and fight with life threats and health threats of city inhabitants, including the purchase of equipment and devices	1. Adjusting equipment, devices and infrastructure to changes in the demand for medical and rescue services as well as changes in the specificity of these services needs	One of consequences of a slow ageing and changes in the age structure of the Opole population is an increase of the demand for medical, custodial and nursing services. The demand for maternity services (it depends on the changing birth-rate). A stable development and refitting of the therapeutic base in Opole, including medical rescue premises are necessary.
		D1.5.3	Construction, reconstruction of devices which control traffic together with the monitoring system of the traffic density in the city	1. Adjusting changes in the infrastructure proportionally to the traffic density in the city (on the basis of the monitoring)	Although the number of inhabitants has constantly been decreasing, a demand for the road infrastructure increases. It is connected with a growing number of mechanical vehicles, also in Opole. Devices which control the traffic are necessary for the effective movement of vehicles. It is also necessary to adjust the existing infrastructure to the changing residential buildings network, what is directly reflected in the traffic density in particular parts of the city (the necessity to change the already existing solutions).
	C1.6				
		D1.6.1	Modernization of the therapeutic base and equipment of health service in the scope of specialist health care	1. Adjusting equipment, devices and infrastructure to changes in the demand for medical and rescue services as well as changes in the specificity of these services needs.	Modernization of the therapeutic base, using fully the existing medical infrastructure (including among others expensive devices used to diagnose and treat illnesses), an improvement of the access to high-quality medical services.
		D1.6.2	Facilitation of an access to medical services to city inhabitants		
P2	STIMULATING DEVELOPMENT AND AGGLOMERATION PROCESSES OF THE CITY				
	C2.3	Creating conditions for the development of modern entrepreneurship			
		D2.2.2	Creation of favourable conditions for the development of enterprises and setting up new economic units	1. An increase in the employment rate in custodial jobs, especially among women approaching the retirement age.	In order to prevent over 50-year-old women from leaving the labour market, it is necessary to undertake actions addressed to this group of people. These women can find a job in the scope of childcare or taking care of elderly people. However, it is necessary to highlight that it cannot be the only job offer for women at this age. Thanks to increasing possibilities of childcare, young mothers will be able to connect family and professional functions. In a longer time perspective, it will have a positive influence on the birth-rate of families in Opole.
	C2.3	Modernization and construction of road and communication infrastructure of the city			
		D2.3.1	Improvement of the standard of local communication solutions and connections with the national and international transport system	1. Adjusting of changes in the infrastructure proportionally to the traffic density in the city (on the basis of the traffic monitoring)	In spite of the decreasing number of inhabitants, the demand for the communication infrastructure development is still increasing. It is connected with the growing number of mechanical vehicles in the city streets. It is necessary to properly adjust the existing road infrastructure to the city communication development.
		D2.3.2	Development and modernization of the Road infrastructure		It is also necessary to encourage people to use public means of collective transport (the encouraging activities are pro-ecological and they improve the city traffic, especially in the sheer city centre) You can read more on this topic in the paper: "The programme of integrated city transport in Opole – the mobility management" , which
		D2.3.3	Creation of development conditions of alternative means of city public transport		

		D2.3.4	Systematic modernization of the Stock and equipment of MZK (the City Public Transport Company)		was formed also in the scope of the <i>Via Regia Plus</i> Project.
P3	SATISFYING OF DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS OF OPOLE INHABITANTS				
	C3.1	Improving the quality and efficacy of the education system			
		D3.1.3	Supporting the education institutions development acting in the city	1. Adjusting the infrastructure to population changes	It is necessary to adjust the number of schools and to arrange them in a way which will meet the current and future demand for education services of all education levels (as a result of undulation of baby booms and demographic lows, these values are not stable but they are subject to periodical, cyclical fluctuations). Changes should be introduced, especially at lower levels of the education system, on the level of particular city zones in such a way to adjust the disposition of schools to the actual demand in a given area.
	C3.2	Increasing availability of education services			
		D3.2.1	Investment in the education infrastructure	1. Adjusting the infrastructure to population changes.	As a result of demographic changes, the age structure of the children and teenagers group will change. It is necessary to adjust the number of schools in such a way to meet the actual demand for educational services.
				2. Development of the infrastructure of childcare institutions	An analysis and demographic forecasts show that the number of people at the working age decreases each year and their participation in the Opole inhabitants population decreases systematically. Thus, it is necessary to professionally activate people who do not work at the moment because of different causes. Childcare institutions such as day nurseries, kindergartens or other forms giving a possibility to spend time after school should be developed in order to reach an aim of increasing the number of professionally active women (especially at the age over 50) who leave the labour market in order to take care of their families. Moreover, the development of the childcare sector makes it possible to connect the family and professional functions by young people, what will have a positive influence on the child-birth.
		D3.2.2	Development of a life long learning system and practical training	1. Development of various lifelong learning forms making professional retraining possible	The system of lifelong learning make sit possible to change, update and complete the possessed job qualifications regardless of age. Thanks to that even people having a particular major-oriented formation can react flexibly to the changing labour market needs and are able to find a new satisfying job. Thanks to different forms of lifelong learning it is possible to have an influence on the situation in the labour market, particularly at the unemployment level (more possibilities of finding a job, a more positive approach to the performed job and more useful work made by employees). It is necessary to develop various lifelong learning forms in accordance with the labour market needs.
				2. Lifelong learning as a tool making it possible to "stop" employees in the labour market and to extend the professional activity period of over 50-year-old people.	Lifelong learning can be a tool making it possible to "stop" employees in the labour market and extend their professional activity period. In the situation when available human resources have been constantly decreasing (a decreasing number of people at the pre-working age), it is necessary to extend the professional activity period of well-qualified employees, including over 50-year-old people. It will have an influence on the increase in the supply of human resources and - in a longer

					period of time - their full reconstruction making it possible to keep the balance in the labour market. It is necessary to develop this branch of education in a way being in accordance with employers' expectations (only then education will be properly adjusted to the requirements of the labour market).
	C3.3	Ensuring equal educational possibilities for children and teenagers			
		D3.3.1	Realization of scholarship programmes for young people at schools and students.	1. Supporting students from the families with a difficult financial condition	In a document entitled: "A demographic view of Opole in the period of twenty years between the year 1989 and the year 2009 together with a forecast of population changes of Opole until the year 2020" it is forecasted that economic disproportions will increase and that the number of people getting small income in Opole will increase. This is why it is necessary to use programmes supporting the poorest people with a difficult financial condition. People who study and have good results in their study, people coming from poor families are the most entitled to receive the financial aid. Programmes of financial aid should be connected with professional and social activation programmes
		D3.3.2	Realization of other education and social support programmes for children and teenagers from the families in a difficult financial condition		
		D3.3.3	Supporting initiatives of other units aiming at ensuring equal educational possibilities		
	C3.4	Creating perspectives of work and promotion			
		D3.4.2	Supporting the system of professional counselling services and unemployed activation programmes	1. Preventing over 50-year-old women from too early leaving the labour market 2. The "silver economy" policy	In order to prevent over 50-year-old women from leaving the labour market, it is suggested to create institutions giving them employment in the professions involving care taking, such as childcare, taking care of elderly people, or promote self-employment (however, it cannot be the only job offer for this age category of women). Employment support programme for over 50-year-old women in the scope of childcare solves several problems of professional activity of women at the pre-retirement age (increasing the number of employees), childcare (an influence on the increasing of birth-rate by connecting the personal and professional life), return of mothers to the labour market (increasing the number of employees). When the number of young employees decreases, employers try to encourage people at the pre-retirement age to stay professionally active. In this purpose it is proposed to implement the so-called "silver economy" that is to develop actions directed to use the potential of elderly people and take their needs into account. The "silver economy" policy includes propagation of people at the pre-retirement age training (indicated in above points), promotion of the increase of their activity as well as the so-called age management system in companies.
		D3.4.4	Development of the co-operation with partners and institutions of the labour market in the scope of professional counselling		
	C3.5	High standard of municipal cultural, tourist, sports and recreational centres			

		D3.5.1	Modernization and development of the cultural infrastructure	1. Adjusting an offer of parties and cultural events to the changing age structure of the city dwellers	The changing age structure of the Opole inhabitants causes a change in the demand for particular types of cultural events. It is necessary to adjust the offer, adequately to the progressing changes in the age structure of the culture lovers.
		D3.5.2	Construction, reconstruction, overhauls and refitting of sports, sports and recreational and tourist centres together with their accompanying infrastructure.	1. Construction and modernization of sport centre in the area of a low density of sports units.	It is recommended to adjust the construction of new units to the network of the existing sports units (it was presented with a division into districts in the full version of a demographic study) as well as in the areas of a forecasted high participation of people at the pre-working age.
	C3.6	Saving the cultural and the natural heritage			
		D3.6.2	Broadening of the offer of parties and cultural events	1. Adjusting an offer of parties and cultural events to the changing age structure	The changing age structure of the inhabitants causes a change in the demand for particular types of cultural events. It is necessary to adjust the offer, adequately to the progressing changes and inhabitants' expectations.

**APPENDIX 1 - RESULT TABLES PRESENTING THE DEMOGRAPHIC TENDENCIES IN OPOLE
IN THE YEARS 2004-2009
AND THE RESULTS OF THE POPULATION GROWTH UNTIL THE YEAR 2020**

OPOLE	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of inhabitants	119899	118960	117998	117230	116363	115976
Number of women	63898	63532	63163	62835	62396	62187
Number of men	56001	55428	54835	54395	53967	53789
Feminization rate	114.1	114.6	115.2	115.5	115.6	115.6
Average age in total	39.4	39.8	40.2	40.6	41.0	41.3
Average age of women	41.0	41.4	41.8	42.2	42.6	42.9
Average age of men	37.5	38.0	38.4	38.7	39.1	39.4
Number of inhabitants at the pre-working age	20518	19731	19061	18487	18022	17835
Number of inhabitants at the working age	80087	79603	78686	77877	76854	75926
Number of inhabitants at the post-working age	19294	19626	20251	20866	21487	22215
The age dependency ratio (the number of dependents per 100 working-age inhabitants)	49.7%	49.4%	50.0%	50.5%	51.4%	52.7%
The age dependency ratio of inhabitants at the pre-working age	25.6%	24.8%	24.2%	23.7%	23.4%	23.5%
The age dependency ratio of inhabitants at the post-working age	24.1%	24.7%	25.7%	26.8%	28.0%	29.3%
Percentage of inhabitants at the pre-working age	17.1%	16.6%	16.2%	15.8%	15.5%	15.4%
Percentage of inhabitants at the working age	66.8%	66.9%	66.7%	66.4%	66.0%	65.5%
Percentage of inhabitants at the post-working age	16.1%	16.5%	17.2%	17.8%	18.5%	19.2%
Migration balance	-572	-842	-878	-715	-767	-277
Inhabitants at the age of 0-2 years	2671	2786	2850	2972	3105	3260
Inhabitants at the age of 3-5 years	2811	2745	2693	2675	2745	2861
Inhabitants at the age of 6-12 years	7623	7318	7069	6783	6496	6334
Inhabitants at the age of 13-15 years	4204	3859	3608	3409	3260	3124
Inhabitants at the age of 16-18 years	4928	4604	4368	4102	3767	3516
Inhabitants at the age of 19-24 years	11839	11409	10902	10398	9776	9179
Inhabitants at the age of 25-34 years	18614	18952	19112	19266	19398	19501
Inhabitants at the age of 35-44 years	15669	15342	15135	15091	15020	15218
Inhabitants at the age of 45-54 years	21244	20635	19902	19115	18353	17531
Inhabitants at the age of 55-64 years	14082	14682	15370	16201	16998	17707
Inhabitants at the age of 64-74 years	10130	10118	10125	10022	9918	9904
Inhabitants at the age of 75 years and more	6084	6510	6864	7196	7527	7841
The number of women in the age of 50-59 and men at the age of 55-64 years.	16794	17510	17856	18206	18553	18664

OPOLE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of inhabitants	115878	115703	115486	115205	114850	114439	113940	113396	112784	112103	111376
Number of women	62125	62015	61885	61727	61524	61297	61026	60734	60406	60041	59652
Number of men	53753	53688	53601	53478	53326	53142	52914	52662	52378	52062	51724
Feminization rate	115.6	115.5	115.5	115.4	115.4	115.3	115.3	115.3	115.3	115.3	115.3
Average age in total	41.6	41.9	42.3	42.6	42.9	43.2	43.6	43.9	44.2	44.5	44.9
Average age of women	43.3	43.6	44.0	44.3	44.7	45.0	45.4	45.7	46.1	46.4	46.8
Average age of men	39.7	40.0	40.3	40.6	40.9	41.2	41.5	41.8	42.1	42.4	42.7
Number of inhabitants at the pre-working age	17710	17572	17441	17370	17251	17151	17032	16952	16792	16634	16487
Number of inhabitants at the working age	75323	74514	73556	72530	71415	70297	69142	67934	66753	65608	64611
Number of inhabitants at the post-working age	22845	23617	24489	25305	26184	26991	27766	28510	29239	29861	30278
The age dependency ratio (the number of dependents per 100 working-age inhabitants)	53.8%	55.3%	57.0%	58.8%	60.8%	62.8%	64.8%	66.9%	69.0%	70.9%	72.4%
The age dependency ratio of inhabitants at the pre-working age	23.5%	23.6%	23.7%	23.9%	24.2%	24.4%	24.6%	25.0%	25.2%	25.4%	25.5%
The age dependency ratio of inhabitants at the post-working age	30.3%	31.7%	33.3%	34.9%	36.7%	38.4%	40.2%	42.0%	43.8%	45.5%	46.9%
Percentage of inhabitants at the pre-working age	15.3%	15.2%	15.1%	15.1%	15.0%	15.0%	14.9%	14.9%	14.9%	14.8%	14.8%
Percentage of inhabitants at the working age	65.0%	64.4%	63.7%	63.0%	62.2%	61.4%	60.7%	59.9%	59.2%	58.5%	58.0%
Percentage of inhabitants at the post-working age	19.7%	20.4%	21.2%	22.0%	22.8%	23.6%	24.4%	25.1%	25.9%	26.6%	27.2%
Inhabitants in the age of 0-2 years	3219	3099	2971	2903	2818	2723	2622	2517	2409	2302	2196
Inhabitants in the age of 3-5 years	3004	3174	3247	3207	3086	2960	2891	2807	2713	2612	2505
Inhabitants in the age of 6-12 years	6267	6251	6390	6515	6738	6990	7109	7195	7220	7139	6998
Inhabitants in the age of 13-15 years	2999	2945	2803	2755	2685	2644	2610	2627	2728	2858	3001
Inhabitants at the age of 16-18 years	3350	3230	3124	2999	2945	2802	2754	2684	2642	2607	2624
Inhabitants at the age of 19-24 years	8668	8142	7754	7376	6966	6628	6337	6163	5915	5742	5618
Inhabitants at the age of 25-34 years	19372	19126	18663	18155	17532	16918	16264	15464	14579	13729	12969
Inhabitants at the age of 35-44 years	15645	16104	16669	17288	17853	18296	18624	18907	19223	19332	19206
Inhabitants at the age of 45-54 years	16831	16162	15547	14850	14386	14255	14228	14342	14484	14811	15229
Inhabitants at the age of 55-64 years	18521	18854	18953	19064	18916	18547	18038	17425	16860	16216	15571
Inhabitants at the age	9856	10129	10655	11157	11746	12293	12954	13710	14447	15126	15791

OPOLE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
of 64-74 years											
Inhabitants at the age of 75 years and more	8146	8487	8710	8936	9179	9383	9509	9555	9564	9629	9668
The number of women at the age of 50-59 and men in the age of 55-64 years.	18802	18683	18335	18053	17589	17104	16531	15912	15277	14707	14352

CONTENTS

About the Project.....	3
Introduction.....	4
1. Demographic view of Opole in two decades of the years 1089-2009.....	5
2. Demographic development of Opole until the year 2020.....	11
3. Influence of population changes on the situation in the labour market and the living standard of inhabitants.....	25
4. Recommendations for the city development policy.....	29
 Appendix 1 – Result tables presenting the demographic tendencies in Opole in the years 2004-2010 and the results of the population growth forecast until the year 2020.....	35