



Migrant's youth in Poland – is a tide coming up?

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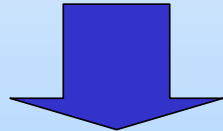
- **Both migrant's youth and legal settlement migration constitute only a tiny share of migration movements, thus do not attract attention of policy makers and general audience**
- **Number of children and youths admitted temporary resident permit and permanent resident permit is systematically growing**
- **Greatest impact on integration and future prospects of 1.5th and 2nd generation exerts the legal situation of their parents (regular vs. irregular residence)**

Education system is a crucial area for institutional integration of migrant youth as it requires fluency in Polish language

 **it requires fluency in Polish language**

 **promotes the establishment of direct relationships with host society members and determine further professional opportunities**

 **determines further professional opportunities**



therefore the study focused primarily on examination of potential barriers and difficulties encountered by migrant children in Polish schools



Table 1: Number of foreign residents registered by Census 2002

| Foreign residents in Poland - Age Bracket | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Total | 0-14 | 15-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ |
| 49,221 | 6,414 | 6,751 | 11,685 | 10,095 | 6,525 | 3,555 | 4,177 |

| Country of Origin | Foreign Residents (residents without Polish citizenship) <i>Census 2002</i> | | |
|--|--|--------------|----------------|
| | Total | Males | Females |
| Total number of Foreign Residents | 49,221 | 24,562 | 24,659 |
| Born in Poland | 5,079 | 2,591 | 2,488 |
| Born Abroad | 43,435 | 21,628 | 21,807 |
| <i>Born in:</i> | | | |
| Europe | 28,463 | 12,649 | 15,814 |
| <i>of which selected countries:</i> | | | |
| Ukraine | 9,339 | 2,933 | 6,406 |
| Belarus | 2,685 | 827 | 1,858 |
| Russian Federation | 4,264 | 1,221 | 3,043 |
| Germany | 2,096 | 1,334 | 762 |
| France | 887 | 604 | 283 |
| United Kingdom | 904 | 697 | 207 |
| Asia | 7,200 | 4,458 | 2,742 |
| North America | 1,172 | 767 | 405 |
| South America | 310 | 207 | 103 |
| Africa | 1,274 | 1,077 | 197 |
| Oceania | 74 | 52 | 22 |



Number of Foreigners by Residence Permit and Share of Foreign Residents per 100,000 of Native Population

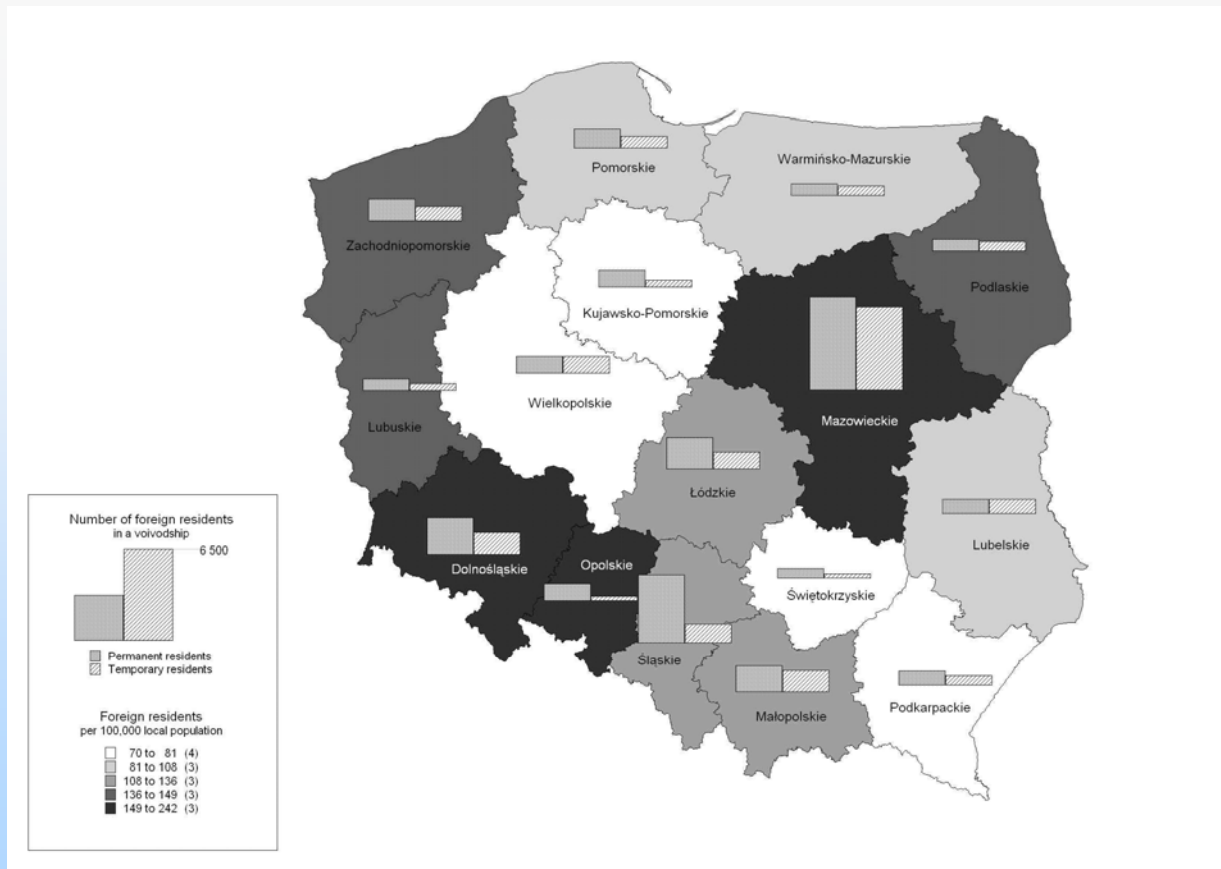


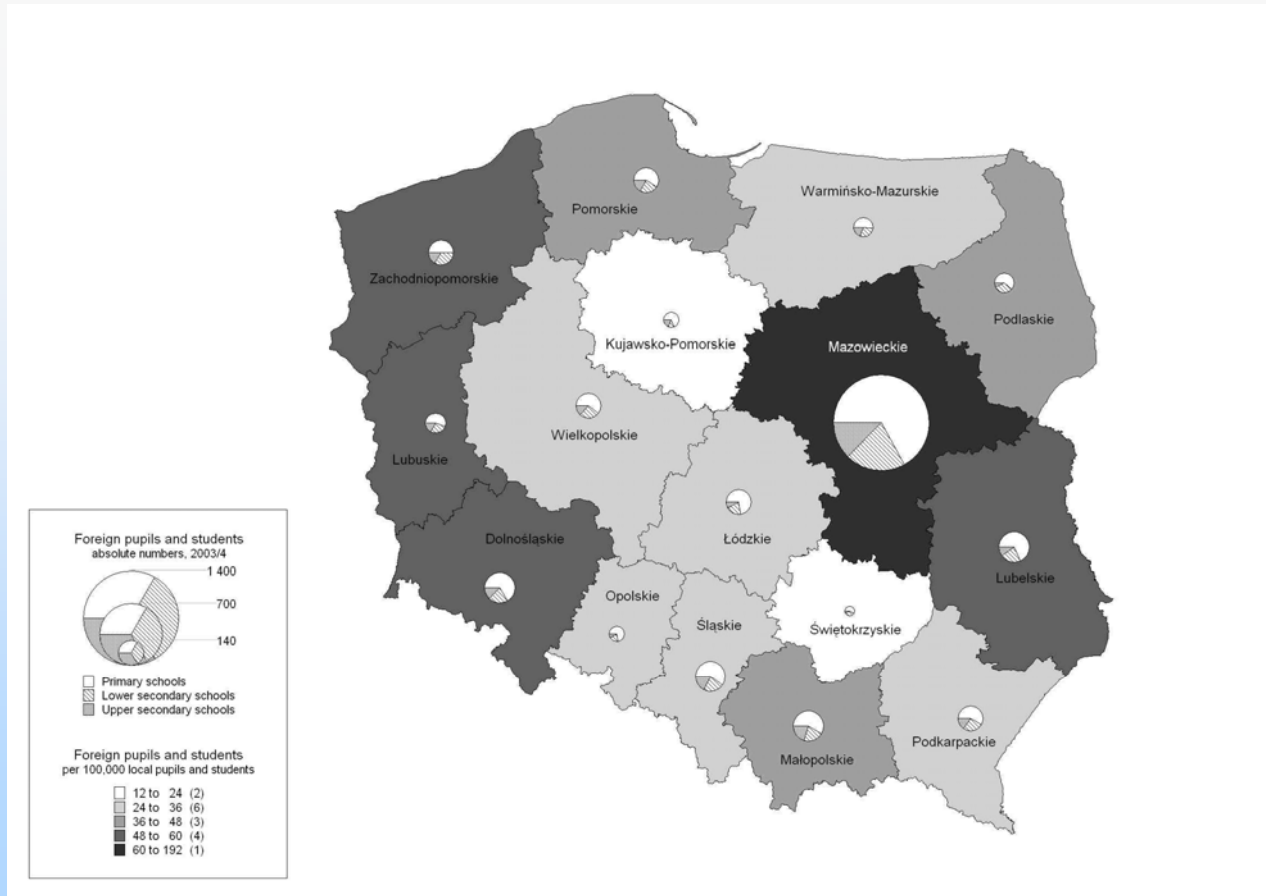


Table 2: Foreign Pupils in Polish Schools in 2003/2004 Academic Years (Data of the Ministry of Education)

| Type of school | Foreigners | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--|
| | Total Number | Of which Permanent Residents | Of which Foreigners of EU Member States* |
| Primary schools | 2,028 | 973 | 191 |
| Gymnasium (Lower secondary school) I | 714 | 378 | 90 |
| General Secondary school | 439 | 257 | 45 |
| Basic vocational School | 19 | 14 | 1 |
| Vocational secondary schools | 89 | 55 | 5 |
| Post-secondary schools | 133 | 51 | 2 |
| Of which in Teacher training college | 12 | 6 | 1 |
| Fine Art Schools | 15 | 9 | 0 |
| Total | 3,437 | 1,737 | 334 |

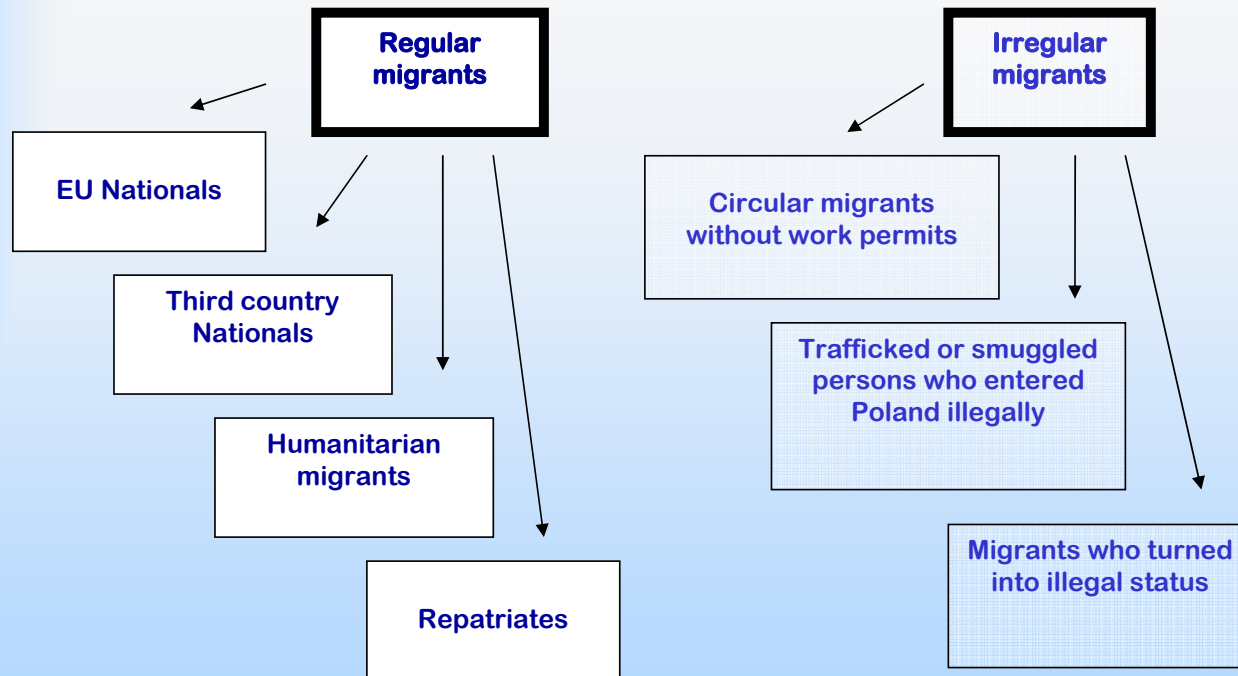


Number of Foreign pupils by Voivodeship and Level of Education





Distinctive migrants' groups (legal aspects)





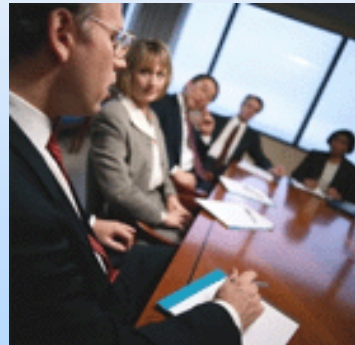
Distinctive migrant groups (ethnic background)

EU Nationals, (+ USA, Canada)

c.a. 25-35 000

- Highly-qualified specialists
- Managers
- Language teachers

Employed at primary labour sector (high economic standad) children often attend private schools with foreign language





Distinctive migrant groups (ethnic background)

Ukrainians, Byelorussians, Russians

c.a. 100 000

- Irregular workers employed at secondary labour sector (domestic sector, construction, agriculture)
- children left in the country of origin
- Due to cultural and linguistic proximity quickly and easily adapt to Polish society





Distinctive migrant groups (ethnic background)

Vietnamese Diaspora

c.a. 40 000

- Operate within an economic niche (Asian fast foods, cheap textiles)
- Language barrier hinder integration of the first generation
- Children are well-educated but may encounter informal barriers while entering primary labour market





Distinctive migrant groups (ethnic background)

Armenian Diaspora

c.a. 15 - 30 000

- Arrived to Poland after the Caucasian Conflicts,
- Deal with trade, adapt relatively easily to Polish society
- Expanded social network of kins and relatives (chain migration)
- Similarly to Vietnamese pay attention to children's education





Distinctive migrant groups (ethnic background)

Chechen asylum seekers

c.a.

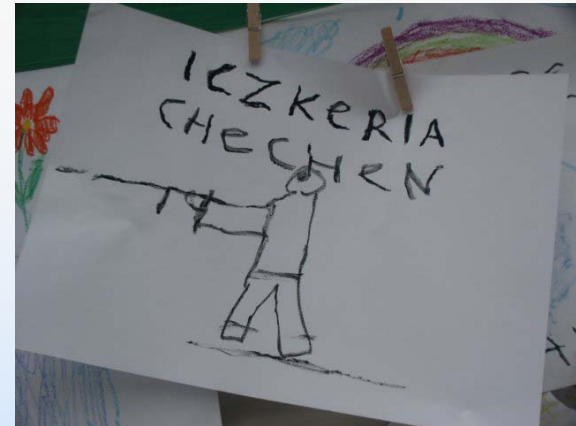
- Traveling all families with many children
- Only part of them eligible for a refugee status, majority granted a tolerated stay
- Encounter difficulties with adaptation to Polish surrounding (esp. at the labour market)
- Under Dublin II, readmission of former Chechen asylum seekers who logged their claim in Poland but then left for EU countries may be expected





Chechen children at Polish schools:

- Children often sufferer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that requires professional therapy which is beyond an average school capacities
- While waiting in refugees' shelters rarely can afford necessary school equipment
- Poor knowledge of Polish language and difficulties in bridging program gaps
- Cultural differences that contribute to mutual misunderstandings





Institutional assistance in Integration

Individual Integration Programs (12 months)

- Monthly allowance per each family member
- Social security, access to labour market
- Obligatory Polish language courses (if necessary)
- Assistance of social worker

Repatriation

- Repatriation is possible if a repatriate is guaranteed an accommodation and maintenance either by local community or private person
- Special funds for professional trainings are secured



Legal entitlements – education system

- **Free primary education for all migrant types (including irregular)**
- **Free secondary and tertiary education for EU nationals, refugees, repatriates and permanent residents**
- **Additional classes in Polish language paid by municipal authorities (2 hours per week)**
- **Freedom of running ethnic schools**



Migrant's youth in Education System

- **Language Barrier – earlier entrance into Polish schools improves educational performance**
- **„Positive segregation” of schools attended by migrant's youth and children**
- **Lacks of procedures and know-how transfers concerning the best practices and experiences in teaching migrant youth between schools**
- **Reluctance to admission „potentially troublesome” migrant's youth**



Recommendations

- **Improvement of data collection on integration process**
- **Promoting and facilitating of self-employment among immigrants**
- **Improvement of cross-cultural competences (esp. among social workers, teachers, police officers, public administration officials, etc. who work directly with immigrants)**
- **Raising awareness of diversity (esp. Islamic culture and religion)**
- **Securing additional resources for assisting „potentially troublesome” migrant groups attending Polish schools**
- **Promoting know-how and the best-practices exchange concerning the multicultural education and migrant children between public schools**



"The long-term effects of immigration for the host society depend less on the fate of first generation immigrants than on their descendants. Patterns of adaptation of the first generation set the stage for what is to come, but issues such as the continuing dominance [of a host society's language], the growth of a welfare-dependent population, the resilience or disappearance of culturally distinct enclaves, and the decline or growth of ethnic intermarriages will be decided among its children and grandchildren."

Alejandro Portes