

MEASUREMENT OF RURAL LABOUR FORCE IN POLAND

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Measuring of the size and structure of the labour force in rural areas in Poland causes many difficulties. In particular, it refers to the population working in agriculture. It results from different data obtained from different statistical sources, from high dynamics of changes taking place in the Polish agriculture as regards the labour force, a high rate of older people working in agriculture, and also, from a different situation in the rural labour market of the population connected with agriculture, as well as, population outside agriculture. Solving the problems constitutes an important task for the Polish labour statistics. In the paper there are presented basic tendencies in changes in the rural labour market, as well as, the newest results of the conceptual work on the way of measuring the rural labour force in Poland.

Biography

Mr Janusz Witkowski, professor, Ph. D. in Economic Sciences within the scope of social policy. He graduated from the Warsaw School of Economics, where he started his professional work as an assistant. In his mother school he went through all stages of the scientific and didactic career.

Since 1991 he was a professor in the Department of the Socio-Economic Demography, and later, in the Institute of Statistics and Demography of the Warsaw School of Economics; since 2001 he is a professor in the Higher School of Economics and Administration in Kielce. He specializes in labour market and social demography issues.

He is an author of over 250 works (papers, reports, lectures, monographs and books), 198 of which were published in Poland and abroad. In the years 1991 – 1995 he was a Director in the Division of Labour Statistics in the Central Statistical Office in Warsaw, and since 1996 – a Vice President of the Central Statistical Office, responsible for social and agricultural statistics.

He is a member of the Committee of Demographic Sciences in the Polish Academy of Sciences (earlier a Scientific Secretary and later a Vice-President of the Committee), a member of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population – IUSSP, a member of the International Statistical Institute, and for many years a member of the Polish Demographic Society, Vice President of the Management Board and a Vice-chairman of the Governmental Population Council.

He was an expert of the European Commission, Council of Europe and he cooperates with OECD and the Statistical Bureau of the International Labour Organization.

In the years 2000 – 2003 he was a leader for the Polish part of the Twinning under national PHARE project on Regional statistics in cooperation with INSEE (France). Since 2004 he is a leader for the Polish part of the Twinning under national PHARE on Upgrading of the quality of the Polish statistics in cooperation with Statistics Sweden.