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	<i>TITLE :</i>  194		
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WRITTEN BY		August 10, 2024	

<b>REVISION HISTORY</b>
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NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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# Chapter 1

## 194

### 1.1 194.guide

Texified version of data for Poland.

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Poland

### 1.2 194.guide/Poland

Poland

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Geography (Poland)  
People (Poland)  
Government (Poland)  
Government (Poland 2. usage)  
Government (Poland 3. usage)  
Economy (Poland)  
Economy (Poland 2. usage)  
Communications (Poland)  
Defense Forces (Poland)

### 1.3 194.guide/Geography (Poland)

Geography (Poland)  
=====

Location:  
Central Europe, between Germany and Belarus

Map references:  
Asia, Ethnic Groups in Eastern Europe, Europe, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:  
total area:  
312,680 km<sup>2</sup>  
land area:  
304,510 km<sup>2</sup>  
comparative area:  
slightly smaller than New Mexico

Land boundaries:  
total 3,114 km, Belarus 605 km, Czech Republic 658 km, Germany 456 km, Lithuania 91 km, Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast) 432 km, Slovakia 444 km, Ukraine 428 km

Coastline:  
491 km

Maritime claims:  
exclusive economic zone:  
200 nm  
territorial sea:  
12 nm

International disputes:  
none

Climate:  
temperate with cold, cloudy, moderately severe winters with frequent precipitation; mild summers with frequent showers and thundershowers

Terrain:  
mostly flat plain; mountains along southern border

Natural resources:  
coal, sulfur, copper, natural gas, silver, lead, salt

Land use:  
arable land:  
46%  
permanent crops:

---

1%  
 meadows and pastures:  
 13%  
 forest and woodland:  
 28%  
 other:  
 12%  
 Irrigated land:  
 1,000 km2 (1989 est.)  
 Environment:  
 plain crossed by a few north flowing, meandering streams; severe air and  
 water pollution in south  
 Note:  
 historically, an area of conflict because of flat terrain and the lack of  
 natural barriers on the North European Plain

## 1.4 194.guide/People (Poland)

People (Poland)  
 =====

Population:  
 38,519,486 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
 0.35% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate:  
 13.59 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Death rate:  
 9.59 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Net migration rate:  
 -0.52 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Infant mortality rate:  
 13.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
 Life expectancy at birth:  
 total population:  
 72.2 years  
 male:  
 68.14 years  
 female:  
 76.51 years (1993 est.)  
 Total fertility rate:  
 1.97 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
 Nationality:  
 noun:  
 Pole(s)  
 adjective:  
 Polish  
 Ethnic divisions:  
 Polish 97.6%, German 1.3%, Ukrainian 0.6%, Belarusian 0.5% (1990 est.)  
 Religions:  
 Roman Catholic 95% (about 75% practicing), Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, ↵  
 and  
 other 5%

Languages:  
 Polish  
 Literacy:  
 age 15 and over can read and write (1978)  
 total population:  
 98%  
 male:  
 99%  
 female:  
 98%  
 Labor force:  
 15.609 million  
 by occupation:  
 industry and construction 34.4%, agriculture 27.3%, trade, transport, and  
 communications 16.1%, government and other 22.2% (1991)

## 1.5 194.guide/Government (Poland)

Government (Poland)

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Names:  
 conventional long form:  
 Republic of Poland  
 conventional short form:  
 Poland  
 local long form:  
 Rzeczpospolita Polska  
 local short form:  
 Polska  
 Digraph:  
 PL  
 Type:  
 democratic state  
 Capital:  
 Warsaw  
 Administrative divisions:  
 49 provinces (województwa, singular - wojewodztwo); Biala Podlaska,  
 Bialystok, Bielsko Biala, Bydgoszcz, Chelm, Ciechanow, Czestochowa, Elblag,  
 Gdansk, Gorzow, Jelenia Gora, Kalisz, Katowice, Kielce, Konin, Koszalin,  
 Krakow, Krosno, Legnica, Leszno, Lodz, Lomza, Lublin, Nowy Sacz, Olsztyn,  
 Opole, Ostroleka, Pila, Piotrkow, Plock, Poznan, Przemysl, Radom, Rzeszow,  
 Siedlce, Sieradz, Skierniewice, Slupsk, Suwalki, Szczecin, Tarnobrzeg,  
 Tarnow, Torun, Walbrzych, Warszawa, Wloclawek, Wroclaw, Zamosc, Zielona ←  
 Gora  
 Independence:  
 11 November 1918 (independent republic proclaimed)  
 Constitution:  
 interim "small constitution" came into effect in December 1992 replacing ←  
 the  
 Communist-imposed Constitution of 22 July 1952; new democratic Constitution  
 being drafted  
 Legal system:

mixture of Continental (Napoleonic) civil law and holdover Communist legal theory; changes being gradually introduced as part of broader democratization process; limited judicial review of legislative acts; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

National holiday:  
Constitution Day, 3 May (1791)

Political parties and leaders:  
post-Solidarity parties:  
Democratic Union (UD), Tadeusz MAZOWIECKI; Christian-National Union (ZCHN), Wieslaw CHRZANOWSKI; Centrum (PC), Jaroslaw KACZYNSKI; Liberal-Democratic Congress, Donald TUSK; Peasant Alliance (PL), Gabriel JANOWSKI; Solidarity Trade Union (NSZZ), Marian KRZAKLEWSKI; Union of Labor (UP), Ryszard BUGAJ; Christian-Democratic Party (PCHD), Pawel LACZKOWSKI; Conservative Party, Alexander HALL

non-Communist, non-Solidarity:  
Confederation for an Independent Poland (KPN), Leszek MOCZULSKI; Polish Economic Program (PPG), Janusz REWINSKI; Christian Democrats (CHD), Andrzej OWSINSKI; German Minority (MN), Henryk KROL; Union of Real Politics (UPR), Janusz KORWIN-MIKKE; Democratic Party (SD), Antoni MACKIEWICZ; Party X, Stanislaw Tyminski

Communist origin or linked:  
Social Democracy (SDRP, party of Poland), Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz; Polish Peasants' Party (PSL), Waldemar PAWLAK

Other political or pressure groups:  
powerful Roman Catholic Church; Solidarity (trade union); All Poland Trade Union Alliance (OPZZ), populist program

Suffrage:  
18 years of age; universal

## 1.6 194.guide/Government (Poland 2. usage)

Government (Poland 2. usage)

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Elections:  
president:  
first round held 25 November 1990, second round held 9 December 1990 (next to be held NA November 1995); results - second round Lech WALESA 74.7%, Stanislaw TYMINSKI 25.3%

Senat:  
last held 27 October 1991 (next to be held no later than NA October 1995); seats - (100 total)

post-Solidarity bloc:  
UD 21, NSZZ 11, ZCHN 9, PC 9, Liberal-Democratic Congress 6, PL 7, PCHD 3, other local candidates 11;

non-Communist, non-Solidarity:  
KPN 4, CHD 1, MN 1, local candidates 5

Communist origin or linked:  
PSL 8, SLD 4

Sejm:  
last held 27 October 1991 (next to be held no later than NA October 1995); seats - (460 total)

post-Solidarity bloc:



UD 62, ZCHN 49, PC 44, Liberal-Democratic Congress 37, PL 28, NSZZ 27, SP ←  
4,  
PCHD 4, RDS 1, Krackow Coalition in Solidarity with the President 1, Piast  
Agreement 1, Bydgoszcz Peasant List 1, Solidarity 80 1  
non-Communist, non-Solidarity:  
KPN 46, PPPP 16, MN 7, CHD 5, Western Union 4, UPR 3, Autonomous Silesia 2,  
SD 1, Orthodox Election Committee 1, Committee of Women Against Hardships ←  
1,  
Podhale Union 1, Wielkopolska Group 1, Wielkopolska and Lubuski Inhabitants  
1, Party X 3  
Communist origin or linked:  
SLD 60, PSL 48  
Executive branch:  
president, prime minister, Council of Ministers (cabinet)  
Legislative branch:  
bicameral National Assembly (Zgromadzenie Narodowe) consists of an upper  
house or Senate (Senat) and a lower house or Diet (Sejm)  
Judicial branch:  
Supreme Court  
Leaders:  
Chief of State:  
President Lech WALESIA (since 22 December 1990)  
Head of Government:  
Prime Minister Hanna SUCHOCKA (since 10 July 1992)  
Member of:  
BIS, CBSS, CCC, CE, CEI, CERN, CSCE, EBRD, ECE, FAO, GATT, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO ←  
,  
ICFTU, IDA, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, IOM (observer),  
ISO, ITU, LORCS, MINURSO, NACC, NAM (guest), NSG, PCA, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO,  
UNDOF, UNIDO, UNIFIL, UNIKOM, UNPROFOR, UNTAC, UPU, WCL, WHO, WIPO, WMO,  
WTO, ZC  
Diplomatic representation in US:  
chief of mission:  
Ambassador Kazimierz DZIEWANOWSKI  
chancery:  
2640 16th Street NW, Washington DC 20009  
telephone:  
(202) 234-3800 through 3802  
FAX:  
(202) 328-6271  
consulates general:  
Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York

## 1.7 194.guide/Government (Poland 3. usage)

Government (Poland 3. usage)

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US diplomatic representation:  
chief of mission:  
Ambassador Thomas W. SIMONS, Jr. embassy:  
Aleje Ujazdowskie 29/31, Warsaw  
mailing address:

American Embassy Warsaw, Box 5010, Unit 25402, or APO AE 09213-5010  
 telephone:  
 [48] (2) 628-3041  
 FAX:  
 [48] (2) 628-8298  
 consulates general:  
 Krakow, Poznan  
 Flag:  
 two equal horizontal bands of white (top) and red; similar to the flags of  
 Indonesia and Monaco which are red (top) and white

## 1.8 194.guide/Economy (Poland)

Economy (Poland)

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### Overview:

Poland is undergoing a difficult transition from a Soviet-style economy -  
 with state ownership and control of productive assets - to a market economy ←

On January 1, 1990, the new Solidarity-led government implemented shock  
 therapy by slashing subsidies, decontrolling prices, tightening the money  
 supply, stabilizing the foreign exchange rate, lowering import barriers, ←  
 and

restraining state sector wages. As a result, consumer goods shortages and  
 lines disappeared, and inflation fell from 640% in 1989 to 44% in 1992.  
 Western governments, which hold two-thirds of Poland's \$48 billion external  
 debt, pledged in 1991 to forgive half of Poland's official debt by 1994. ←

The  
 private sector accounted for 29% of industrial production and nearly half ←  
 of

nonagricultural output in 1992. Production fell in state enterprises,  
 however, and the unemployment rate climbed steadily from virtually nothing  
 in 1989 to 13.6% in December 1992. Poland fell out of compliance with its  
 IMF program by mid-1991, and talks with commercial creditors stalled. The  
 increase in unemployment and the decline in living standards led to strikes  
 in the coal, auto, copper, and railway sectors in 1992. Large state  
 enterprises in the coal, steel, and defense sectors plan to halve ←  
 employment

over the next decade, and the government expects unemployment to reach 3  
 million (16%) in 1993. A shortfall in tax revenues caused the budget ←  
 deficit

to reach 6% of GDP in 1992, but industrial production began a slow, uneven  
 upturn. In 1993, the government will struggle to win legislative approval  
 for faster privatization and to keep the budget deficit within IMF-approved  
 limits.

### National product:

GDP - purchasing power equivalent - \$167.6 billion (1992 est.)

### National product real growth rate:

2% (1992 est.)

### National product per capita:

\$4,400 (1992 est.)

### Inflation rate (consumer prices):

44% (1992)  
 Unemployment rate:  
 13.6% (December 1992)  
 Budget:  
 revenues \$17.5 billion; expenditures \$22.0 billion, including capital expenditures of \$1.5 billion (1992 est.)  
 Exports: \$12.8 billion (f.o.b., 1992 est.)  
 commodities:  
 machinery 22%, metals 16%, chemicals 12%, fuels and power 11%, food 10% (1991)  
 partners:  
 Germany 28.0%, former USSR 11.7%, UK 8.8%, Switzerland 5.5% (1991)  
 Imports:  
 \$12.9 billion (f.o.b., 1992 est.)  
 commodities:  
 machinery 38%, fuels and power 20%, chemicals 13%, food 10%, light industry 6% (1991)  
 partners:  
 Germany 17.4%, former USSR 25.6%, Italy 5.3%, Austria 5.2% (1991)  
 External debt:  
 \$48.5 billion (January 1992); note - Poland's Western government creditors promised in 1991 to forgive 30% of Warsaw's official debt - currently \$33 billion - immediately and to forgive another 20% in 1994, if Poland adheres to its IMF program  
 Industrial production:  
 growth rate 3.5% (1992)

## 1.9 194.guide/Economy (Poland 2. usage)

Economy (Poland 2. usage)

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Electricity:  
 31,530,000 kW capacity; 137,000 million kWh produced, 3,570 kWh per capita (1992)  
 Industries:  
 machine building, iron and steel, extractive industries, chemicals, shipbuilding, food processing, glass, beverages, textiles  
 Agriculture:  
 accounts for 15% of GDP and 27% of labor force; 75% of output from private farms, 25% from state farms; productivity remains low by European standards ←  
 ;  
 leading European producer of rye, rapeseed, and potatoes; wide variety of other crops and livestock; major exporter of pork products; normally self-sufficient in food  
 Illicit drugs:  
 illicit producers of opium for domestic consumption and amphetamines for ←  
 the  
 international market; emerging as a transshipment point for illicit drugs ←  
 to  
 Western Europe  
 Economic aid:  
 donor - bilateral aid to non-Communist less developed countries, \$2.2

billion (1954-89); the G-24 has pledged \$8 billion in grants and credit guarantees to Poland

Currency:  
 1 zloty (Zl) = 100 groszy

Exchange rates:  
 zlotych (Zl) per US\$1 - 15,879 (January 1993), 13,626 (1992), 10,576 (1991) ←  
 ,  
 9,500 (1990), 1,439.18 (1989), 430.55 (1988)

Fiscal year:  
 calendar year

## 1.10 194.guide/Communications (Poland)

Communications (Poland)  
 =====

Railroads:  
 26,250 km total; 23,857 km 1.435-meter gauge, 397 km 1.520-meter gauge, 1,996 km narrow gauge; 8,987 km double track; 11,510 km electrified; government owned (1991)

Highways:  
 360,629 km total (excluding farm, factory and forest roads); 220 km limited access expressways, 45,257 km main highways, 128,775 km regional roads, 186,377 urban or village roads (local traffic); 220,000 km are paved (including all main and regional highways) (1988)

Inland waterways:  
 3,997 km navigable rivers and canals (1991)

Pipelines:  
 natural gas 4,600 km, crude oil 1,986 km, petroleum products 360 km (1992)

Ports:  
 Gdansk, Gdynia, Szczecin, Swinoujscie; principal inland ports are Gliwice ←  
 on  
 Kana Gliwice, Wroclaw on the Oder, and Warsaw on the Vistula

Merchant marine:  
 209 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 2,747,631 GRT/3,992,053 DWT; ←  
 includes  
 5 short-sea passenger, 76 cargo, 1 refrigerated cargo, 11 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 9 container, 1 oil tanker, 4 chemical tanker, 101 bulk, 1 passenger; Poland owns 1 ship of 6,333 DWT operating under Liberian registry

Airports:  
 total:  
 163  
 usable:  
 163  
 with permanent-surface runways:  
 100  
 with runway over 3,659 m:  
 0  
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:  
 51  
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:  
 95

Telecommunications:

severely underdeveloped and outmoded system; cable, open wire and microwave ↵  
;  
phone density is 10.5 phones per 100 residents (October 1990); 3.6 million  
telephone subscribers; exchanges are 86% automatic (1991); broadcast  
stations - 27 AM, 27 FM, 40 (5 Soviet repeaters) TV; 9.6 million TVs; 1  
satellite earth station using INTELSAT, EUTELSAT, INMARSAT and Intersputnik

## 1.11 194.guide/Defense Forces (Poland)

Defense Forces (Poland)

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Branches:

Army, Navy, Air and Air Defense Force

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 9,914,128; fit for military service 7,774,499; reach  
military age (19) annually 304,956 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

30.8 trillion zlotych, 1.8% of GNP (1993 est.); note - conversion of ↵  
defense

expenditures into US dollars using the current exchange rate could produce  
misleading results