

Foster care, day-support centres and stationary social welfare facilities in Mazowieckie Voivodship in 2023

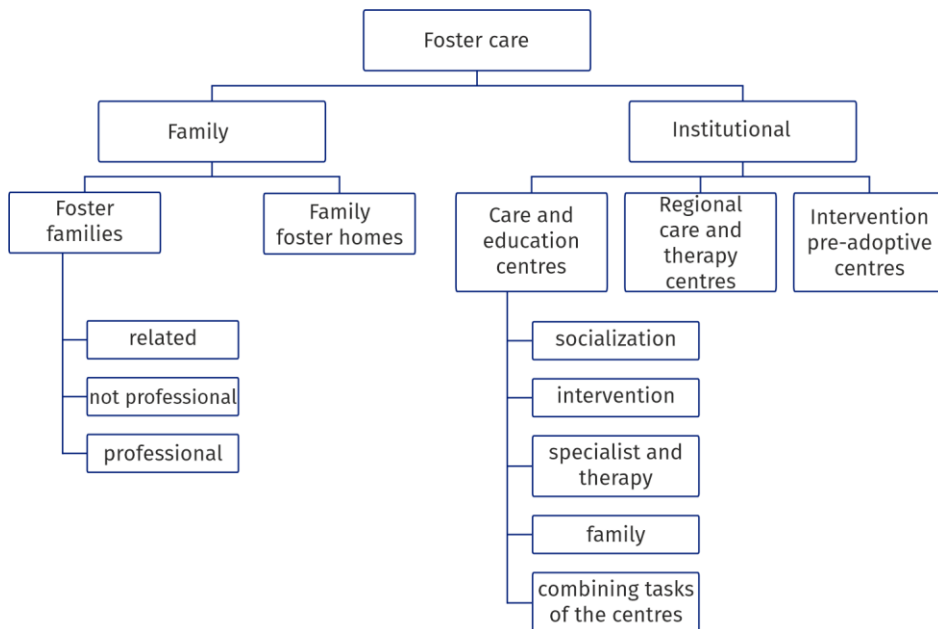
29 July 2024

↑ 2.7%
Increase in the number of children in family foster care compared to 2022

In Mazowieckie Voivodship, both the number of foster families and foster homes increased compared to the previous year. There were more institutional foster care facilities, but fewer day-support centres. The number of stationary social welfare facilities increased.

Bringing up children and youth deprived of full or partial support from the natural family is provided by the family and institutional foster care system.

Forms of foster care



Family foster care

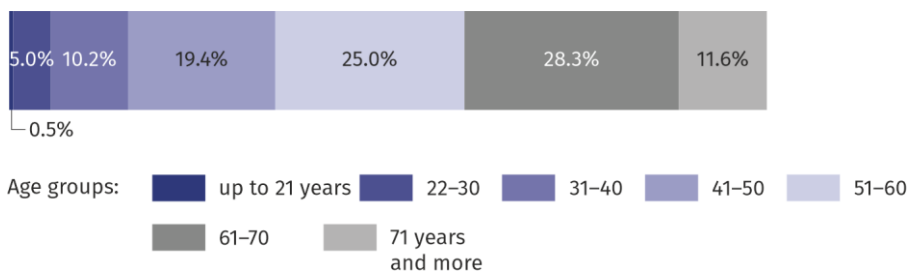
In Mazowieckie Voivodship at the end of 2023, care for children was provided by 4023 foster families (by 9 more than in 2022) and 79 foster homes (by 4 more compared to 2022). They accounted for 11.1% of total facilities of family foster care in Poland. Among foster families, related families constituted 64.6%, non-professional families – 31.1%, and professional families – 4.3%. Foster family care was made up of 2024 marriages and 2078 single persons. Most often the function of family foster care was taken by persons aged 51–70 (2186 persons, i.e. 53.3%), and the least frequently by persons up to 21 years of age (20 persons, i.e. 0.5%).

More than 53% of persons performing the role of a family foster care were in the 51–70 age group

Table 1. Family foster care
As of 31 December

Specification		Grand total	Of which in rural areas	Children in families	
				total	Of whom girls
Family foster care	2022	4089	1323	6083	2889
	2023	4102	1372	6249	3023
Foster families		4023	1342	5640	2710
related		2600	787	3381	1634
not-professional		1251	452	1631	784
professional		131	82	485	210
professional specialised		17	7	32	16
professional that performs the function of a family emergency house		24	14	111	66
Foster homes		79	30	609	313

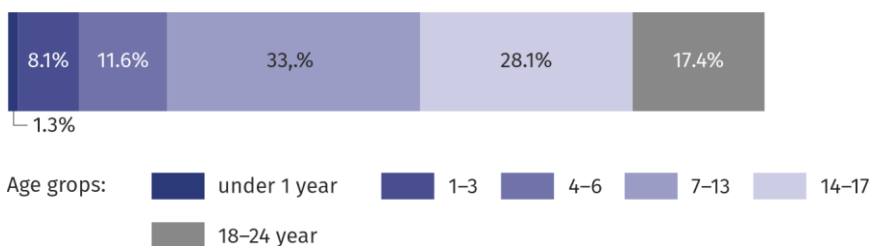
Chart 1. Persons providing family foster care by age groups in 2023
As of 31 December



There were 6083 children in family foster care on the last day of the year (of which 82.6% were persons up to 18 years of age). Their number increased, both compared to the previous year by 2.7%. The most numerous group made up persons aged 7–13 and 14–17 (respectively 33.4% and 28.1%). Of all the persons in care, 632 had a disability certificate and 304 were orphans. For the first time in their lives, 1096 children were placed in family foster care.

Among children using family care forms, 623 had a disability certificate

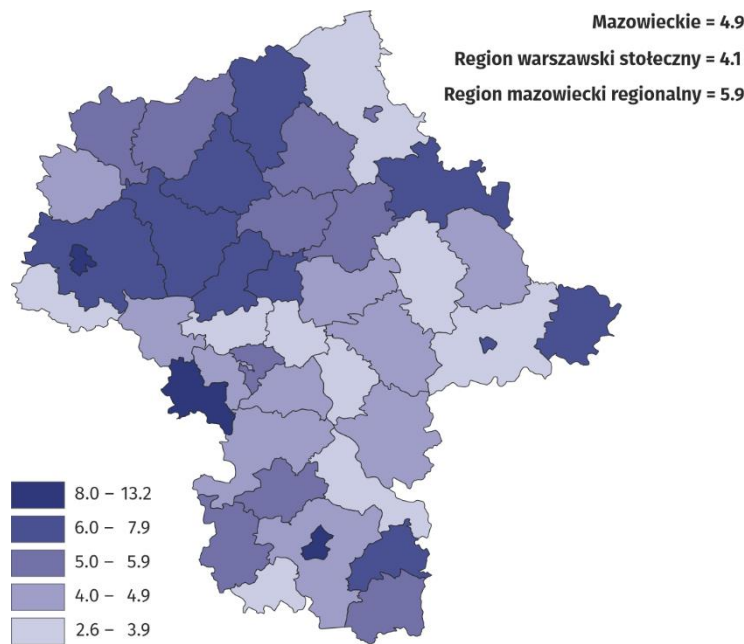
Chart 2. Structure of children in family foster care by age groups in 2023
As of 31 December



Taking into account the number of children under the age of 18 staying in family foster care per 1,000 children of the same age, the highest rate was recorded in żyrardowski (13.2) and the lowest in gostyniński and szydlowiecki powiats (2.6 each).

Map 1. Children under the age of 18 staying in family foster care per 1,000 children of the same age in 2023

As of 31 December



During 2023, 872 children under the age of 18 left a family foster care, i.e. by 11.9% more than a year earlier, and 1/3 of the residents changed the form of family foster care. Most of them (29.2%) returned to the natural family. Among those leaving family foster care, there were 501 adults, i.e. 0.4% less than in 2022. Of these, 337 became self-dependent, of which 288 set up their own household, and 12 returned to a natural family or relatives.

Institutional foster care

In Mazowieckie Voivodship at the end of 2023, there were 140 facilities of institutional foster care, including 139 care and education centres (by 3 more than in 2022) and 1 pre-adoptive intervention centre.

Institutional foster care facilities accounted for 10.6% of all facilities of this type in Poland.

Among total care and educational centres, socialisation centers (68.3%) and family institutions (19.4%) prevailed.

The total number of places in institutional foster care amounted to 1712, and these were primarily places in care and educational centres (1692). Compared to the previous year, both the number of institutional foster care facilities and the number of places increased by 2.2% and 3.6%, respectively.

Nearly than 74% of all places in care and education centres were places in socialisation centres

Table 2. Institutional foster care by type of facility

As of 31 December

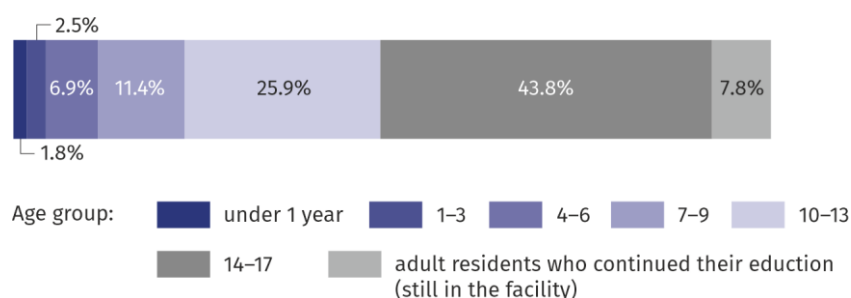
Specification		Facilities	Places	Residents ^a	
				total	of which orphans and half-orphans
Institutional foster care	2022	137	1653	1725	350
	2023	140	1712	1786	336
Care and education centres		139	1692	1761	336
socialisation		95	1251	1319	250
intervention		7	92	104	23
specialist and therapy		3	59	64	7
family		27	178	150	28
other ^a		7	112	124	28
pre-adoptive intervention centres		1	20	25	–

a Including students staying in boarding schools, dormitories, etc. b Combining the tasks of intervention, socialisation and specialist and therapy centres.

On the last day of the year, 1786 residents stayed in institutional foster care facilities, and 1761 in care and educational centres. Among the care and educational centres, the greatest number of residents – 74.9% stayed in socialisation centres, and the least – 3.6% in specialist and therapeutic centres. As in previous years, more boys (948) than girls (838) were placed in institutional foster care facilities.

Chart 3. Structure of residents of care and education centres by age groups in 2023

As of 31 December

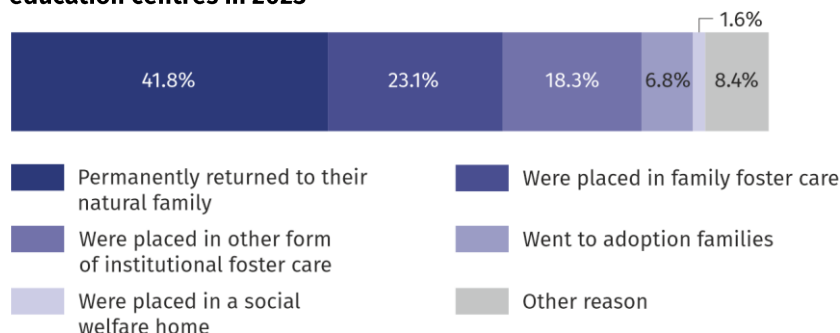


The most numerous group (782 residents) made up persons aged 14–17, and the least numerous (32) were children under 1 year of age. In care and education centres there were also 140 adult residents continuing education.

Among residents of institutional foster care facilities – 81.2% of residents had both parents. Only 2.8% of children were orphans, and 16.0% half-orphans. Disabled persons accounted for 13.8% of all residents, and 14.4% were chronically ill, whose illness lasted six months and longer.

The most numerous group of residents were children aged 14–17

Chart 4. Structure of residents up to 18 years of age by reasons for leaving care and education centres in 2023



In 2023 – 546 residents up to the age of 18 left care and education centres for various reasons. Most of them (41.8%) returned to their natural families.

Among 199 adult residents who left the facilities in 2023, 124 set up their own household, and 59 returned to their natural families.

Institutional foster care facilities were supported in their activities by the work of 152 volunteers, 140 of whom worked in care and educational centres.

Day-support centres

In Mazowieckie Voivodship at the end of 2023, the day care was provided by 236 day-support centres (by 11 fewer than in 2022) operating in the form of general care centre, specialised centre, street work or in a combination of the forms. They accounted for 7.9% of total day-support centres in the country.

These centres had 6759 places at their disposal, of which majority (62.3%) were in general care centres. During 2023, 9151 residents were provided with support from day-support centres, of which 5525 (60.4% of total residents) from general care centres.

Over 62% of total places in day-support centres were places in general care centres

Table 3. Day-support centres by type of facility
As of 31 December

Specification		Facilities	Places	Users	
				total	of which persons with disabilities
Grand total	2022	247	7043	6392	301
	2023	236	6759	6285	322
General care		151	4209	3774	133
Specialised		44	1199	1065	89
Street work		5	94	70	5
Combining tasks of the centres		36	1257	1376	95

Persons working with children were supported by 261 volunteers in general care centres, 138 – in specialised centres, 116 – in a combination of the forms and 5 – in street work.

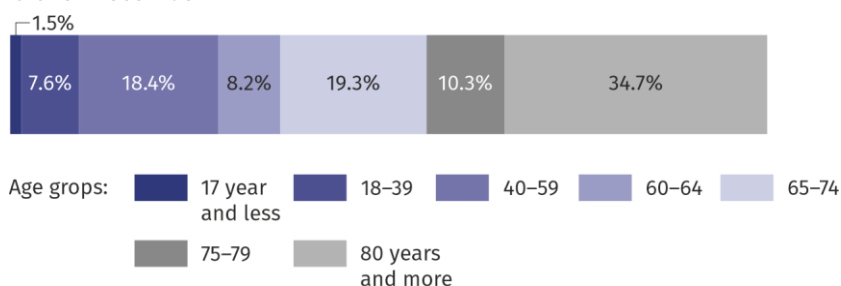
Stationary social welfare facilities

In Mazowieckie Voivodship at the end of 2023, there were 321 stationary social welfare facilities (by 11 more than at the end of 2022) and 3 branches. Out of the total number of facilities 44.2% were establishments providing 24-hour care for disabled persons, chronic patients, or elderly persons within the scope of economic activity or their statutory activity, 34.0% – social welfare homes, 14.3% – shelters or homes for homeless persons, 3.4% – houses for mothers, 0.9% – family-based assistance houses, and 2.8% – other not classified to the above categories. Stationary social welfare facilities (including branches) had 18904 places at their disposal (a decrease by 94, i.e. by 0.5% compared to 2022). As in the previous years, social welfare homes had the largest number of places (10060, i.e. 53.2% of the total).

During 2023, there were 25280 residents in stationary social welfare facilities

Chart 5. Structure of residents of stationary social welfare facilities by age groups in 2023

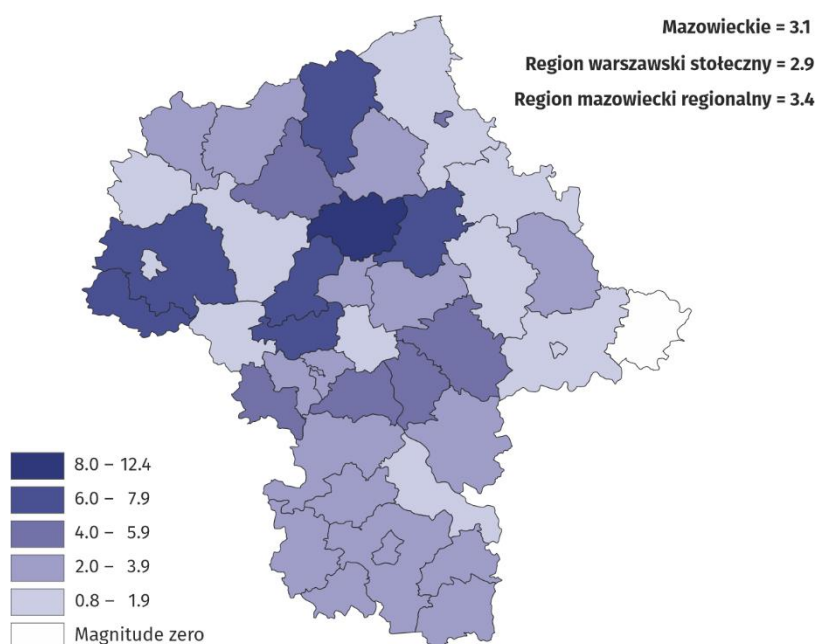
As of 31 December



As of the end of the year, there were 17042 residents in all facilities (by 1.6% more than a year earlier), of these 55.4% constituted women. In terms of structure by age, the most numerous group were at least 60-year-old persons – 72.5%, and the least numerous was a group of young persons (up to 18 years of age), constituting 1.5% of the total residents. Among the residents of stationary social welfare facilities, most of them stayed in facilities for the elderly (7090 persons), then in facilities for the chronically mentally ill (3032 persons), and the least in facilities for physically disabled persons (114 persons).

Map 2. Residents of stationary social welfare facilities per 1,000 population in 2023

As of 31 December



Among the powiats of Mazowieckie Voivodship, most residents lived in facilities located in m.st. Warszawa and piaseczyński powiat, and the least – in ostrowski, białobrzski and sierpecki powiats. Taking into account the number of residents of stationary social welfare facilities per 1,000 population, this indicator was the highest in pułtuski powiat (12.4), and the lowest in ostrowski (0.8) and ostrołęcki (0.9) powiats. It is worth noting that there were no stationary social welfare institutions in łosicki powiat.

There were 1438 persons waiting to be placed in stationary social welfare facilities. Majority of them expected to be placed in social welfare homes – 76.2% of the total. Most residents, i.e. 73.0% at least partially participated in financing their stay, by covering the cost from their own income. Among them, only 13.8% covered the full costs. For 19.2% of residents, the stay was paid for entirely by family members, and for 6.4% by the gmina or the state budget.

During 2023, there were 25280 persons in stationary social welfare facilities.

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Related information

[Social assistance, child and family services in 2022](#)

Data available in databases

[Local Data Bank -> Health care, social welfare and benefits to the family](#)

Terms used in official statistics

[Social assistance house](#)

[House for mothers with children under age and pregnant women](#)

[Intervention centre](#)

[Family centre](#)

[Socialisation centre](#)

[Specialist therapy centre](#)

[Centres combining tasks of the centres](#)

[Day support centre](#)

[Foster family](#)

[Family based assistance house](#)

