THE SILESIAN VOIVODESHIP

4 subregions
167 municipalities
12 333 km² of surface area
3,9% of the whole country’s surface area
THE SILESIAN VOIVODESHIP

- The Silesian Voivodeship is a region attracting with its industrial history, good business climate, natural landscape, cultural events and positive energy of the residents.

- The Silesian Voivodeship successfully faced the social and economic challenges related to the restructuring of traditional sectors. New companies in such sectors as, for instance, automotive, ICT sector, construction of machines and devices, food processing, chemistry, modern materials or services (financial, IT, related to customer service) have developed on the foundations of economic transformation.

- Industrial tradition, highly qualified staff, developed investment areas, high-quality technical infrastructure, efficient co-operation between regional authorities, cities and business environment institutions, an efficient education system, numerous scientific units, and specialised service companies playing an important role in value chains constitute the strength of the regional economic ecosystem.

- The Silesian Voivodeship has an acknowledged second position in Poland in terms of generated gross domestic product, and a strong position in the country in terms of export.

- The Silesian Voivodeship is a region of diversified, modern economic structure, which is focused on development of knowledge, technology and innovation, also not forgetting about its industrial tradition.
**DEMOGRAPHY AND HUMAN POTENTIAL**

- **8.5 mln** people live in a 100 km radius of Katowice

- **4.6 mln** residents
- **12.1%** of Poland’s population
- **77.6%** of the population live in cities, which is the highest urbanisation rate in the country
- **370 people per 1 km²** the highest population density in Poland

**Structure of employment in enterprise sector by sections in 2018**

- **56.8%** administration and supporting activity
- **14.0%** professional, scientific and technical activity
- **12.1%** trade, repair of motor vehicles
- **7.0%** transportation and warehouse management
- **6.4%** real estate market service
- **5.6%** construction industry
- **5.5%** industry (mining and extraction / industrial processing /production and supply of electricity, gas, steam and hot water / water supply, sewerage and waste management, reclamation)
- **2.9%** other sections

**124 people per 1 km²** Polish national average

**114 people per 1 km²** average for the European Union
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Road transport

- dense road network
- motorways: A1 and A4
- DTŚ (serving as a city highway)
- express roads: S1, S52 i S86

Rail transport

- Railway node in Tarnowskie Góry
  one of the largest railway nodes in Europe
- ACG international network
- Euroterminal Sławków
  direct connection of the Intercontinental Trans-Siberian Railway (Europe-Asia) being one of the elements of transport infrastructure in the New Silk Road.
Air transport

Katowice Airport

- 1st place in Poland among regional airports in freight transport
- one of the three most popular airports in Poland in terms of passenger traffic

Two large international airports in the radius of 100 km from Katowice

Kraków airport
Ostrava airport
ECONOMY

12.2% share of the Silesian voivodeship in generating GDP

Economic structure

- Industry: 0.7%
- Trade, repair of motor vehicles, transportation and warehouse management, accommodation and gastronomy, information and communication: 7.4%
- Financial and insurance activities, real estate market service: 7.8%
- Construction industry: 22.4%
- Services: 35.3%
- Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing: 26.4%
- 12.2% of share in creating Gross Domestic Product
- the largest industrial region in the country
- numerous natural resources: bituminous coal, zinc and lead deposits, methane and natural gas reserves, marl, limestone and natural aggregate deposits, thermal, mineral, and healing waters
- one of the leading electricity producers in the country
- over 470,000 registered economic entities

approx. 13% of national export
SMART SPECIALIZATIONS

The Silesian Voivodeship, as the first one in Poland, developed the Regional Innovation Strategy.

Smart Specializations of the Region:

- medicine
- ICT sector
- energy industry
- green economy
- emerging industries
BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Region with the largest number of clusters in Poland

28 clusters associating 1,190 entities

Upper Silesian Fund

2,000 loans for 1,638 companies amounting to over PLN 327 mln in 2004-2019

Katowice Special Economic Zone

- approx. 400 Polish and foreign companies operating in the Zone
- investment projects worth approx. PLN 36 billion
- over 80,000 jobs

The Silesian Voivodeship is one of the regions with the largest number of business environment institutions in Poland. These include regional and local development agencies, chambers of trade, chambers of industry, chambers of commerce, craft guilds, and business support, consulting and business information centres, as well as economic associations.

the biggest zone in Poland

the leader among special economic zones
Real estate market

- region with a large concentration of developed investment areas
- second largest market of warehouse spaces in Poland
- over **500 000 m²** of office space in the region’s capital only
- dynamically developing market of co-working spaces
**EDUCATION**

**Structure of working-age population by education level**

- 27.2% people with higher education
- 15.1% people with post-secondary and secondary vocational education
- 26.6% people with general secondary education
- 9.1% people with basic vocational education
- 22.0% people with junior secondary education, primary education or lower

- 40 higher education institutions, including universities, technical, medical and art colleges
- Almost 120,000 students of colleges and universities
- Over 38,000 university and college graduates a year
2nd place in the country in terms of the number of scientific and research units

3rd place in the country in terms of internal expenditure on R&D

The scientific and research institutes, colleges and universities conducting scientific and research activity independently or in co-operation with business, focus mainly on:

- environmental protection
- energy industry
- automatics
- electronics
- construction industry
The Silesian Voivodeship is a region with a very diverse tourist offer. It is also a region with the largest amount of green areas in Poland!
**CULTURE**

The region is a place of mingling of numerous cultural traditions and new forms of expression presented by modern artists.

There are many cultural institutions and organizations in Silesia. The artistic institutions run by the Silesian Voivodeship include: the drama theatre – Silesia Theatre in Katowice, the musical theatre Teatr Rozrywki (the Theatre of Entertainment) in Chorzów, and the Silesian Opera in Bytom.

Concert hall of the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra (NOSPR) in Katowice
INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

Partner regions of the Silesian Voivodeship

- Hauts-de-France region (France)
- Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia (Germany)
- Walloon region (Belgium)
- Žilina Self-Governing Region (Slovakia)
- Moravian-Silesian Region (Czech Republic)
- Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén comitatus (Hungary)
- Wales (United Kingdom)
- Principality of Asturias (Spain)
- Lviv Oblast (Ukraine)
- Chernivtsi Oblast (Ukraine)
- Donetsk Oblast (Ukraine)
- Zhytomyr Oblast (Ukraine)
- Västra Götaland County (Sweden)
- Autonomous Republic of Ajara (Georgia)
- Liaoning Province (China)
- State of Nevada (USA)
- State of West Bengal (India)
The region is a very important exhibition and trade fair centre with dynamically developing business tourism.
The Silesian Voivodeship owes its high position to (among others):

- qualified staff and great human potential
- second largest market in Poland
- perfect location
- a large number of foreign companies in the region
- a large number of small and medium enterprises
- a large concentration of developed investment areas
- well-developed transport and social infrastructure
- well functioning ecosystem of co-operation between local government, science and business
- friendly investment atmosphere
- rich tourist and recreational offer
The Silesian Investor and Exporter Assistance Centre operates in the structures of the Marshal Office of the Silesian Voivodeship and is one of the offices in the Department of Economy and International Cooperation.

The main task and objective of the Silesian Investor and Exporter Assistance Centre is economic promotion and supporting the development of the Silesian Voivodeship by increasing the inflow of investments in the region and the level of export from the voivodeship.

Services of the Centre are provided free of charge.