

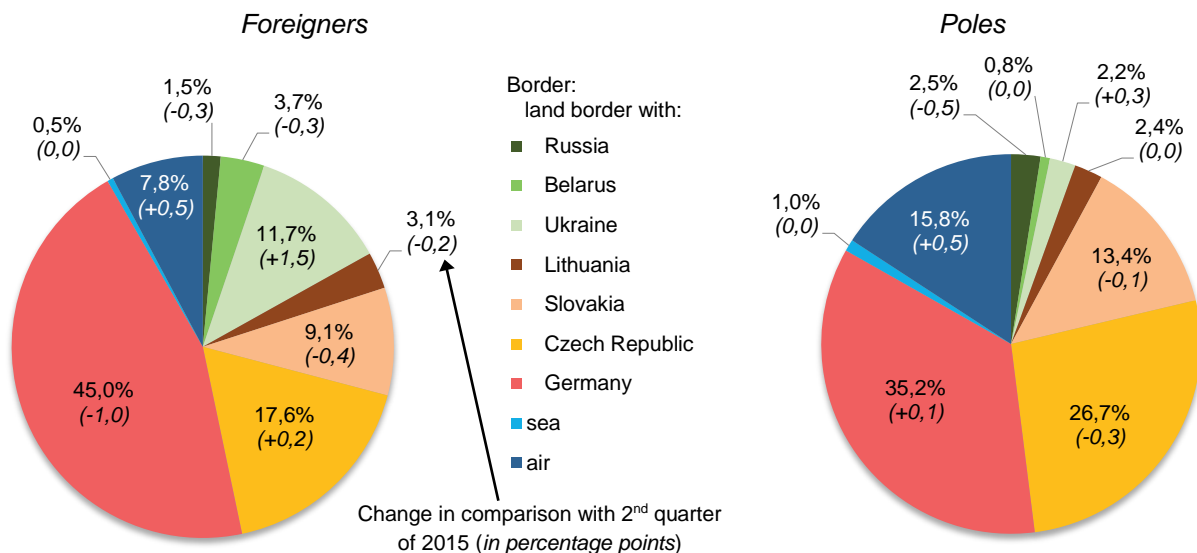
Border traffic and expenses made by foreigners in Poland and Poles abroad in the 2nd quarter of 2016

Border traffic

In the 2nd quarter of 2016 the estimated number of crossings of the Polish border amounted to 72.8 million, of which 44.7 million was made by foreigners (61.4% in total) and 28.1 million by Poles (38.6%). Approximately 75.9% of the total crossings of the border related to the Polish land border with the countries of the European Union, 12.5% to the external land border of the EU, 10.9% to air border and 0.7% to sea border.

The highest number of persons crossed the Polish land border on the section with Germany (46.6% of all crossings of the Polish land border in the 2nd quarter of 2016), followed by the border with Czech Republic (23.9%), Slovakia (12.2%), Ukraine (9.1%), Lithuania (3.2%), Belarus (2.9%) and Russia (2.1%).

Chart 1. Structure of border traffic of persons (from and to Poland) by the borders in the 2nd quarter of 2016



According to the Border Guard Main Headquarters, the number of clearances at the European Union's external land border on the territory of Poland in the 2nd quarter of 2016 was 9.3% higher compared to the previous quarter and 7.6% higher than in the corresponding period of 2015. The number of clearances of foreigners was 9.3% higher than in the 1st quarter of 2016 and 10.3% higher than the year before, while the number of clearances of Poles was 9.5% higher than in the previous quarter and 4.0% lower than in the 2nd quarter of 2015.

Citizens of a neighbouring country predominated among the foreigners crossing individual sections of the Polish land border, for example, on the border with Ukraine - Ukrainian citizens (97.5%), on the border with Russia - Russian citizens (91.8%), and on the border with Belarus - Belarusian citizens (87.4%).

Table 1. Border traffic and expenses of foreigners in Poland and Poles abroad in the 2nd quarter of 2016

Border	Border traffic ^a				Expenses				Average expenses ^b			
	foreigners		Poles		foreigners		Poles		foreigners		Poles	
	million persons	2 nd qr. 2015 =100	million persons	2 nd qr. 2015 =100	million zł	2 nd qr. 2015 =100	million zł	2 nd qr. 2015 =100	zł	2 nd qr. 2015 =100	zł	2 nd qr. 2015 =100
Total	44.7	104.1	28.1	101.3	10 350.9	105.1	4 613.7	101.0	480	101.5	337	99.1
land	41.0	103.5	23.3	100.6	8 958.1	104.4	2 998.0	100.1	452	101.4	262	98.8
EU's external	7.6	110.3	1.5	96.0	2 466.0	107.2	188.2	94.1	675	97.3	248	98.1
with: Russia	0.7	86.3	0.7	83.6	131.9	80.7	109.1	86.3	406	94.5	311	103.3
Belarus	1.7	95.7	0.2	102.4	548.0	85.1	20.3	105.1	715	90.2	195	100.3
Ukraine	5.3	120.2	0.6	112.8	1 786.1	119.6	58.8	108.2	697	99.1	194	96.9
EU's internal	33.4	102.1	21.8	100.9	6 492.1	103.4	2 809.8	100.5	401	101.9	263	98.8
with: Lithuania	1.4	99.4	0.7	102.0	440.6	101.3	95.8	101.9	654	99.4	246	100.4
Slovakia	4.1	100.0	3.8	100.5	711.3	102.4	340.6	99.6	355	100.8	190	98.2
Czech Republic	7.9	104.7	7.5	100.0	1 038.4	103.2	860.4	97.3	274	101.6	239	96.0
Germany.....	20.1	101.8	9.9	101.7	4 301.8	103.9	1 513.0	102.6	443	102.4	309	100.4
sea	0.2	103.7	0.3	101.7	86.7	109.7	107.0	102.6	805	108.2	746	98.3
air	3.5	111.4	4.5	105.0	1 306.1	109.4	1 508.7	102.7	794	99.7	714	97.9

^a From and to Poland. ^b Per one person during one trip.

Expenses made by foreigners in Poland and Poles abroad

The estimated value of goods and services purchased in Poland by foreigners (non-residents) in the first half of 2016 amounted to 19.1 billion zł, and the expenses incurred abroad by the Polish residents – to 8.4 billion zł. The expenses made by foreigners were 4.5% higher than in the corresponding period of 2015, while those made by Poles were 2.6% higher.

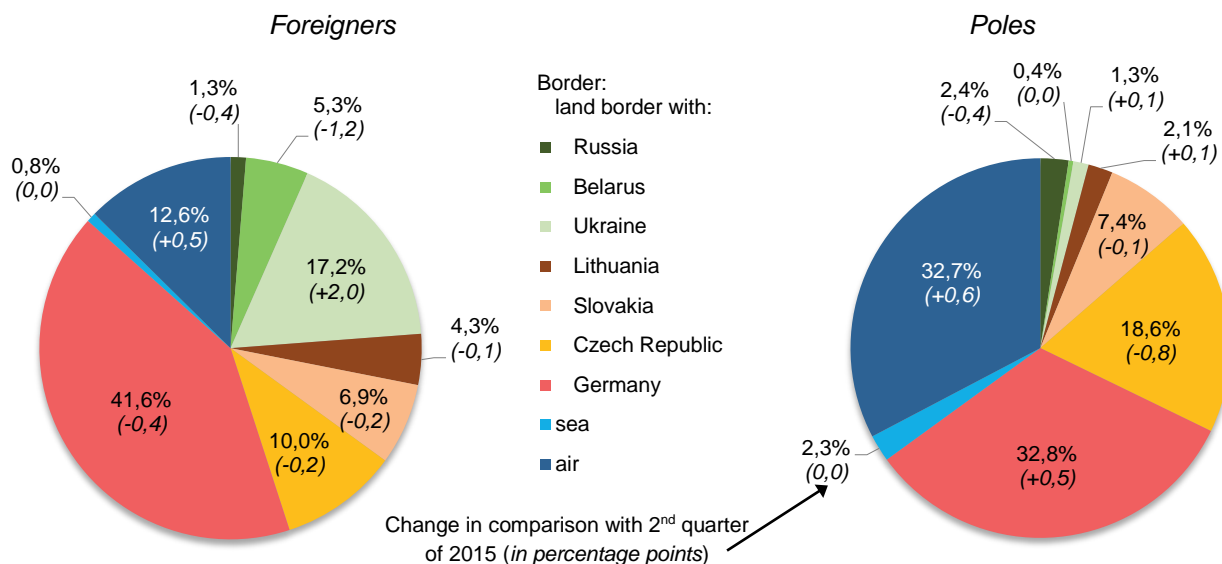
Expenses made by foreigners in Poland in the 2nd quarter of 2016 reached the level of approximately 10.4 billion zł, while the expenses incurred abroad by the Polish residents reached the level of 4.6 billion zł and were 5.1% and 1.0% higher respectively than in the corresponding period of 2015. Compared to the previous quarter, the expenses of foreigners were 18.7% higher and of Poles 20.8% higher.

Out of total expenses of foreigners, the expenses made by persons crossing the internal land border of the European Union on the Polish territory accounted for 62.7%, the external land border of the EU 23.8%, air border 12.6% and sea border 0.8%. In the case of expenses incurred abroad by residents of Poland the similar structure was as follows: 60.9%, 4.1%, 32.7% and 2.3%.

Taking into account the land border, the highest expenses in Poland were incurred by foreigners crossing the border with Germany (48.0% of total expenses made by foreigners crossing the Polish land border in the 2nd quarter of 2016), followed by the border with Ukraine (19.9%), Czech Republic (11.6%), Slovakia (7.9%), Belarus (6.1%), Lithuania (4.9%) and Russia (1.5%).

In the case of the Polish residents returning through the land border, the highest expenses were incurred by persons crossing the border with Germany (50.5% of total expenses of Poles crossing the Polish border land in the 2nd quarter of 2016), followed by Czech Republic (28.7%), Slovakia (11.4%), Russia (3.6%), Lithuania (3.2%), Ukraine (2.0%) and Belarus (0.7%).

Chart 2. Structure of expenses made by foreigners in Poland and Poles abroad in the 2nd quarter of 2016



The estimated value of goods and services purchased in Poland by foreigners crossing the Polish section of the external land border of the European Union in the 2nd quarter of 2016 amounted to approximately 2.5 billion zł, while the expenses incurred abroad by Polish citizens crossing this section of the border – 188.2 billion zł. Expenses incurred by foreigners in Poland at the external border of the EU in the 2nd quarter of 2016 were higher, both compared with the same period of 2015 and compared with the previous quarter, by 7.2% and 19.5% respectively. On the other hand, the expenses incurred by Polish citizens abroad were 5.9% lower compared to the 2nd quarter of 2015 and 16.2% compared to the 1st quarter of 2016.

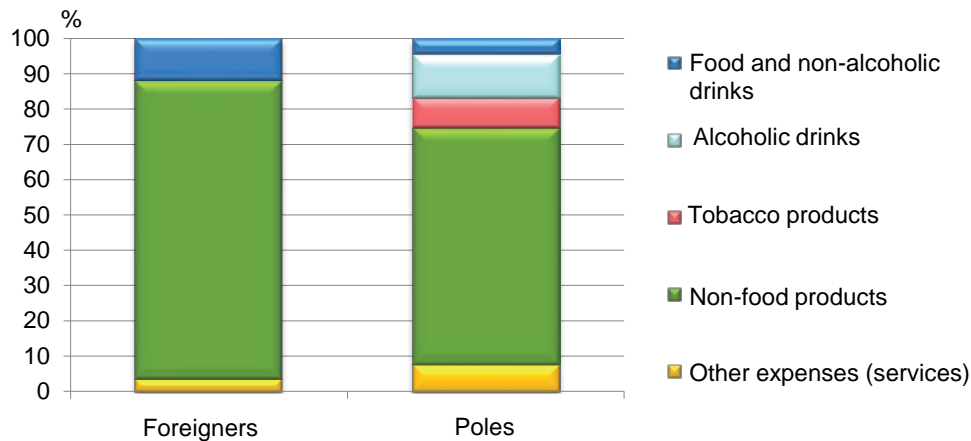
Differences in expenses, also in terms of the structure of products, were observed on individual sections of the border, both among foreigners as well as Poles. It is associated with the way of travelling, destination, length of stay and profitability of shopping abroad, among other things.

Foreigners crossing the external land border of the EU on the territory of Poland in the 2nd quarter of 2016 incurred more than 84% of their expenses for the purchase of non-food products, approximately 12% on food and non-alcoholic drinks and approximately 4% on other expenses (services). With regard to non-food products, foreigners showed the greatest interest in materials for construction, renovation and maintenance of the apartment or house (approximately 25% of expenses on non-food products), home electronics and appliances (approximately 18%) and parts and accessories for means of transport (approximately 15%).

Residents of Poland crossing the external land border of the EU in Poland in the 2nd quarter of 2016 spent the majority of their expenses (over 67%) for the purchase of non-food products, mainly

for the purchase of fuel. Other expenses (services) constituted a significant share in the structure of expenses made by Poles crossing the external border – approximately 8%, while food and soft drinks – over 4%.

Chart 3. Structure of expenses made by foreigners in Poland and Poles abroad crossing the external border of the European Union on the territory of Poland in the 2nd quarter of 2016



Foreigners crossing the internal border of the EU in the 2nd quarter of 2016 incurred the largest expenses on non-food products - approximately 59%. Foreigners incurred approximately 12% of their expenses on food and non-alcoholic drinks, and approximately 14% on other expenses (services). Among Polish citizens crossing the internal border of the EU in the 2nd quarter of 2016 a significant share in the structure of expenses incurred abroad was constituted by non-food products – approximately 38%. Poles incurred over 37% of their expenses on other expenses (services) and over 18% on food and non-alcoholic drinks.

Average expenses incurred in Poland by a foreigner (non-resident) in the 2nd quarter of 2016 amounted to 480 zł, while the average expenses incurred abroad by a Polish citizen amounted to 337 zł. Definitely the highest average expenses were incurred by non-residents crossing both the sea and air border (approximately 80% higher than in the case of land border). Average expenses of foreigners crossing the external land border of the EU on the territory of Poland were about 70% higher than of those crossing the EU’s internal land border. In the case of Poles, the average expenses of those crossing the sea and air border were also significantly higher (about three times) than of those crossing the land border. Average expenses of Poles crossing the external land border of the EU on the territory of Poland were approximately 6% lower than of those crossing the internal border EU land.

Local Border Traffic

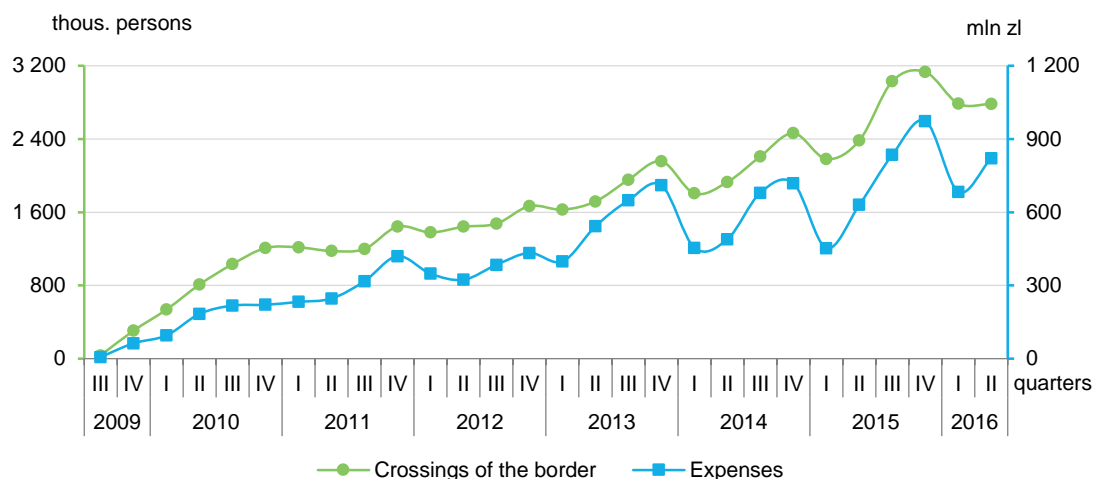
Local border traffic greatly facilitates the regular crossing of the external EU land border by residents living in the border area in order to stay on the other side of the border, including for social, cultural, family or economic reasons. The agreement on local border traffic with Ukraine entered into

force on 1 July 2009¹ and with Russia on 27 July 2012². In the case of the Polish-Ukrainian border, the local border traffic (MRG) is more important for the citizens of Ukraine than for Polish citizens, because Poles can travel and stay on the territory of Ukraine up to 90 days without a visa. On the other hand, the introduction of MRG on the border with the Kaliningrad oblast is significant for both sides. Besides, the part of local border traffic at the border with Russia is unique because of its area, as it reaches much further than 30 or 50 km from the border³.

The Polish-Ukrainian border

On the Polish-Ukrainian border, 2.8 million clearances were reported in the 2nd quarter of 2016⁴ as part of the local border traffic, which accounted for 53.0% of crossings of this section of the border made by foreigners. Compared with the previous quarter, the number of crossings of the border as part of MRG was at a similar level (0.1% lower), and as compared to the same period of 2015 – 16.7% higher.

Chart 4. Local border traffic of foreigners on the Polish-Ukrainian border



The estimated value of the expenses incurred in Poland by foreigners crossing the Polish-Ukrainian border as part of MRG in the 2nd quarter of 2016 amounted to 821.8 million zł, which accounted for

¹ Government Statement of 20 June 2009 on the binding force of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the rules of local border traffic, signed in Kiev on 28 March 2008, and the Protocol, signed in Warsaw on 22 December 2008 between the Government of Republic of Poland and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine amending the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on local border traffic, signed in Kiev on 28 March 2008 (Journal of Laws of 2009 no. 103, item 859) and the Government Statement of 19 April 2016 on the binding force of the Second Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine amending the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on local border traffic, signed in Kiev on March 28, 2008, signed in Warsaw on 17 December 2014 (Journal of Laws of 2016, item 665).

² Government Statement of 28 June 2012 on the binding force of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of the Russian Federation on local border traffic, signed in Moscow on 14 December 2011. (Journal of Laws of 2012, item 815).

³ Regulation (EC) No 1931/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 laying down rules on local border traffic at the external land borders of the Member States and amending the provisions of the Schengen Convention (Official Journal of the European Union L 29, 3 February 2007). Regulation (EU) No 1342/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 amending Regulation (EC) No 1931/2006 as regards the inclusion of the Kaliningrad oblast and certain Polish administrative districts in the eligible border area (Official Journal of the European Union L 347 of 30 December 2011).

⁴ Data of the Border Guard Main Headquarters.

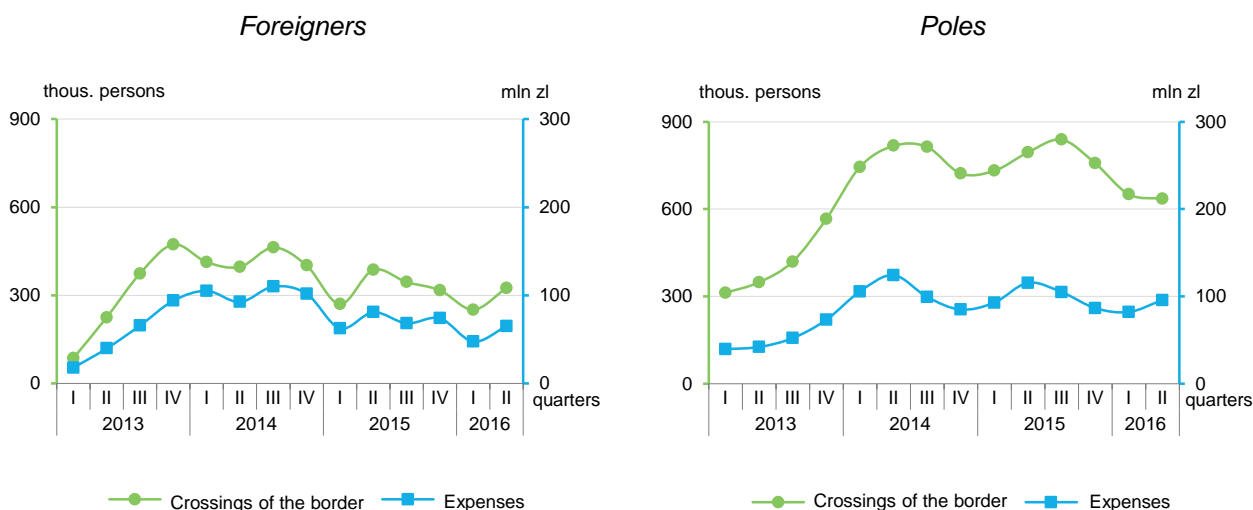
46.0% of total expenses of foreigners crossing the Polish-Ukrainian border. These expenses were 20.2% higher than in the previous quarter and 30.3% higher than in the corresponding period of 2015.

Average expenses incurred in Poland by a foreigner crossing the Polish-Ukrainian border as part of MRG in the 2nd quarter of 2016 amounted to 590 zł (in the previous quarter – 491 zł), while a year before – 529 zł.

The Polish-Russian border

On the Polish-Russian border, as part of the local border traffic, the Border Guard reported 325.1 thousand clearances of foreigners in the 2nd quarter of 2016, i.e. 29.5% more than in the 1st quarter of 2016 and 15.9% less than in the comparable period of 2015. As part of MRG, the border was crossed by approximately 635.8 thousand Poles⁵, i.e. by 2.3% less than in the previous quarter and by 20% less than last year. Clearances in MRG accounted for almost half (49.2%) of the crossings of that section of the border made by foreigners, whereas in the case of Poles – for approximately 90.6%.

Chart 5. Local border traffic on the Polish-Russian border



The estimated value of the expenses incurred in Poland by foreigners crossing the Polish-Russian border as part of MRG in the 2nd quarter of 2016 amounted to 65.0 million zł, which accounted for 49.3% of total expenses of foreigners crossing this section of the border. These expenses were 36.5% higher than in the previous quarter and 19.6% lower than in the 2nd quarter of 2015. The value of expenses incurred abroad by Poles as part of MRG amounted to 95.7 million zł, which accounted for 87.8% of the expenses of Poles crossing the border section with Russia. These

⁵ Estimates of the Central Statistical Office.

expenses were 16.6% higher compared with the previous quarter and 17.1% lower in relation to expenses in the 2nd quarter of the previous year.

Average expenses incurred in Poland by a foreigner crossing the Polish-Russian border as part of MRG in the 2nd quarter of 2016 amounted to 401 zł (379 zł in the previous quarter), while a year before – 419 zł. The average expenses incurred abroad by a Pole crossing this border as part of MRG amounted to 301 zł, in the previous quarter to 252 zł, and the year before – 290 zł.

Delimitation of the area of the impact of the border

Surveys conducted in the 2nd quarter of 2016 show that foreigners crossing the Polish land border, as well as Poles, were mostly residents of the villages located at a distance of 50 km from the border – 71.0% of foreigners and 68.6% of Poles, with 54.5% of foreigners and 55.6% of Poles living in the area up to 30 km from the border. 20.9% of foreigners and 20.7% of Poles crossing the Polish land border resided at the distance of over 100 km from the border.

Table 2. Structure of foreigners and Poles crossing the Polish land border by the distance from the border to the place of residence in the 2nd quarter of 2016

Border	Foreigners (non-residents)						Poles (residents)					
	total	0-50 km	of which		51-100	over 100 km	total	0-50 km	of which		51-100	over 100 km
			0-30	31-50					0-30	31-50		
in percent												
Total	100.0	71.0	54.5	16.5	8.2	20.9	100.0	68.6	55.6	13.0	10.7	20.7
EU's external	100.0	68.1	50.0	18.1	18.7	13.1	100.0	64.7	37.2	27.5	22.0	13.3
with: Russia	100.0	70.0	16.6	53.5	24.8	5.2	100.0	55.7	14.0	41.7	34.3	10.1
Belarus.....	100.0	59.4	45.7	13.6	18.3	22.3	100.0	78.2	49.3	28.9	10.0	11.8
Ukraine	100.0	70.5	55.5	15.0	18.1	11.4	100.0	70.6	59.9	10.7	11.8	17.6
EU's internal	100.0	71.6	55.5	16.1	5.8	22.6	100.0	68.9	56.9	12.0	9.9	21.2
with: Lithuania.....	100.0	45.8	15.7	30.1	23.3	31.0	100.0	60.0	49.2	10.8	11.2	28.8
Slovakia.....	100.0	57.0	22.7	34.3	13.1	29.9	100.0	45.2	20.0	25.2	23.8	31.0
Czech Republic	100.0	75.8	61.7	14.1	5.0	19.2	100.0	84.2	74.5	9.7	5.0	10.8
Germany	100.0	74.8	62.6	12.2	3.4	21.8	100.0	67.1	58.1	8.9	8.3	24.7

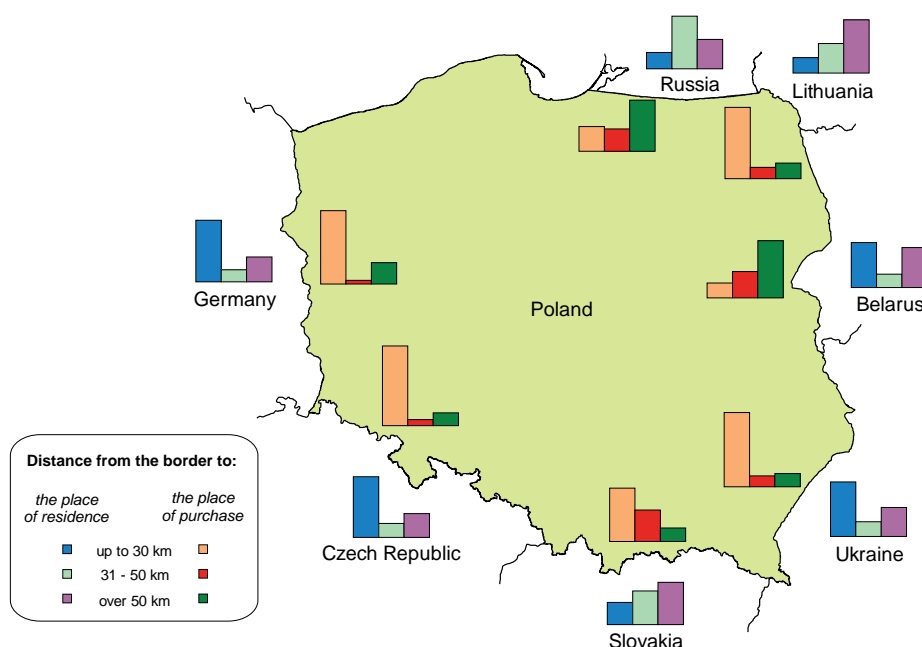
Foreigners and Poles crossing the Polish land border preferred to make a purchase at the distance of up to 50 km from the border – 80.0% of foreigners and 66.8% of the Poles, with 70.8% of foreigners and 54.8% of Poles making a purchase in the area up to 30 km from the border. On the other hand, 13.5% of foreigners and 22.2% of Poles made a purchase at a distance of over 100 km from the border.

Table 3. Structure of foreigners and Poles crossing the Polish land border by the distance from the border to the place of purchase in the 2nd quarter of 2016

Border	Foreigners (non-residents)						Poles (residents)					
	total	0-50 km	of which		51-100	over 100 km	total	0-50 km	of which		51-100	over 100 km
			0-30	31-50					0-30	31-50		
	in percent											
Total	100.0	80.0	70.8	9.2	6.5	13.5	100.0	66.8	54.8	12.0	11.0	22.2
EU's external	100.0	73.8	58.4	15.3	17.9	8.3	100.0	90.0	86.3	3.6	2.6	7.4
with: Russia	100.0	47.9	25.2	22.7	23.6	28.4	100.0	98.0	94.4	3.6	1.0	1.0
Belarus.....	100.0	41.9	15.1	26.8	48.9	9.3	100.0	85.3	80.6	4.7	2.9	11.8
Ukraine	100.0	86.6	75.5	11.0	7.9	5.5	100.0	82.4	79.0	3.3	4.3	13.3
EU's internal	100.0	81.4	73.7	7.8	3.9	14.7	100.0	65.1	52.5	12.6	11.7	23.3
with: Lithuania.....	100.0	84.1	72.5	11.6	1.9	14.0	100.0	31.1	8.2	22.8	26.3	42.7
Slovakia.....	100.0	86.2	54.3	32.0	7.6	6.1	100.0	50.1	25.2	24.9	20.8	29.1
Czech Republic	100.0	87.0	81.0	6.0	4.8	8.2	100.0	77.4	69.1	8.3	9.0	13.6
Germany	100.0	78.3	74.6	3.7	3.0	18.7	100.0	64.5	54.2	10.3	9.0	26.5

Based on the results of the survey and taking into account the distance from the place of residence and the place of purchase of persons crossing the border, the range of the impact of the border is shown on Maps 1 and 2.

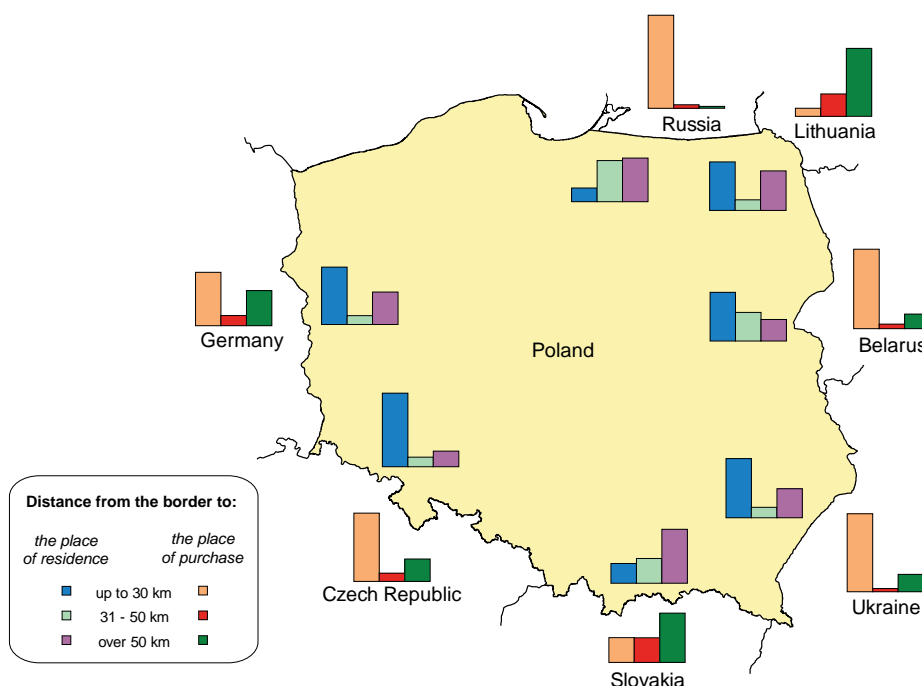
Map 1. The range of the impact of the border of the basis of the distance from the border to the place of residence and the place of purchase of Poles and foreigners in the 2nd quarter of 2016



The vast majority of foreigners and Poles crossing the Polish land border lived in the area of up to 50 km from the border: in the case of the external border of the European Union on Polish

territory – 68.1% of foreigners and 64.7% of Poles, and in the case of the internal border of the EU – 71.6% and 68.9% respectively.

Map 2. The range of the impact of the border on the basis of the distance from the border to the place of residence and place of purchase of Poles in the 2nd quarter of 2016



Most surveyed foreigners made a purchase in the strip of up to 50 km from the border, in the case of the external border of the EU on the territory of Poland – 73.8% of those crossing the border, while in the case of the internal border of the EU – 81.4%. On the other hand, the percentage of Poles who made a purchase in the strip of up to 50 km of the external border amounted to 90.0%, while in the case of the internal border – 65.1%.

Summary

The analysis shows that different phenomena can be observed on particular types and sections of the border. In the 2nd quarter of 2016, approximately 67% of the total arrivals of foreigners to Poland were connected with making a purchase. Foreign trips of Polish citizens concerned shopping to a large extent – approximately 28% and the holidays and recreation – approximately 50% (with exception that at the external land border of the EU these shares accounted for approximately 87% and 3%). Differences in types of incurred expenses are associated with the structure of the purpose for which respondents go abroad. Among foreigners the expenses incurred in Poland for the purchase of goods accounted for approximately 82%, and for services approximately 18%, while among Polish citizens those expenses amounted to approximately 51% and approximately 49%.

The results of the survey conducted both among foreigners (non-residents) and Poles show that the greatest intensity of these phenomena occurs in areas in the strip of up to 50 km along the border, as reflected by, among others, a high percentage of persons crossing the border who incurred

expenses in this strip, as well as the fact that the inhabitants of villages located in this area were the vast majority of persons crossing the border. It is also characteristic that in the case of the internal border in the area over 100 km from the border, there is a greater intensity of the phenomena associated with the traffic (of both foreigners and Poles) than in the case of the external border.

As regards the external border of the EU, the proportion of foreigners making a purchase at a distance of over 100 km from the border was also relatively high, in particular in the section with Russia, which is additionally connected with the presence of local border traffic area specific due to the territorial coverage. For areas located at the external border of the European Union on the territory of Poland, the introduction of MRG was an important element facilitating the crossing of the border.

Methodological notes

Presented information was developed on the basis of the survey results of "Trips made by non-residents to Poland. The movement of vehicles and persons at the Polish border with the countries of the European Union" and "Participation of Polish citizens (residents) in trips". The survey methodology has been prepared by the Central Statistical Office, Statistical Office in Rzeszów in cooperation with the National Bank of Poland and the Ministry of Sport and Tourism. Since 2014 the surveys conducted jointly by these institutions are the result of the integration of several surveys (including „The survey of goods and services turnover at the external land border of European Union on the territory of Poland”). They provide information for the needs of tourism statistics, national accounts and the balance of payments and cross-border areas.

The survey on trips made by non-residents to Poland and the movement of vehicles and persons at the Polish border with the countries of the European Union is conducted in an environment of selected border crossings with passenger traffic movement (including airports and seaports) on randomly selected days in such a way that in a quarter each day of the week occurred once. The survey of border traffic covers persons and vehicles crossing the Polish border with the European Union at selected border crossings. Vehicles (including country of registration) and persons crossing the border in the direction to and from Poland are counted. The survey of trips made by foreigners (non-residents) includes those leaving Poland by internal and external border of UE on the territory of Poland. Persons living in Poland for over one year are not covered by the survey (with the exception of those traveling for educational and health purposes). Data on expenses incurred by foreigners (non-residents) in Poland include goods purchased in Poland for resale in the country of foreigner.

Survey on participation of Polish citizens (residents) in travel is conducted in households on a quarterly basis (in the month following the quarter) by a direct interview. The survey does not cover persons staying abroad for more than one year (with the exception of those traveling for educational and health purposes). The presented data on expenses incurred abroad by residents include expenses financed only from own funds (expenses financed by workplace and other individuals and institutions are not included) and goods purchased abroad for resale in Poland.

Data on border traffic at the external border of the EU on the territory of Poland come from the Border Guard Main Headquarters and covers all border crossings (road, rail and river). To estimate border traffic at the internal border of the EU on the territory of Poland and traffic on the sea border secondary results of other statistical surveys ("Tourist accommodation establishments and their utilization", "Sea and coastal transport") are used. Traffic data relate to the number of border crossings - a person crossing the border several times is counted as many times as he/she crosses this border.

Due to rounding, the sums of the figures may differ from the figure "total" in some cases. These figures are correct in terms of content.

The data presented are preliminary.

Produced by:
Statistical Office in Rzeszów
The Centre of Transborder Areas Surveys
and Statistics for Euroregions
Wiesława Magryś
Telephone: +48 17 8535210

Dissemination:
The Spokesman for the President of the CSO
Artur Satora
Telephone: + 48 22 608 3495, 22 608 3009
e-mail: rzecznik@stat.gov.pl

More on: <http://stat.gov.pl/obszary-tematyczne/ceny-handel/handel>