

# Tourism in Poland in the face of COVID-19 pandemic

28.04.2020 r.

↓ 65%

Decrease in the number of tourist using accommodation establishments in March 2020 compared to March 2019

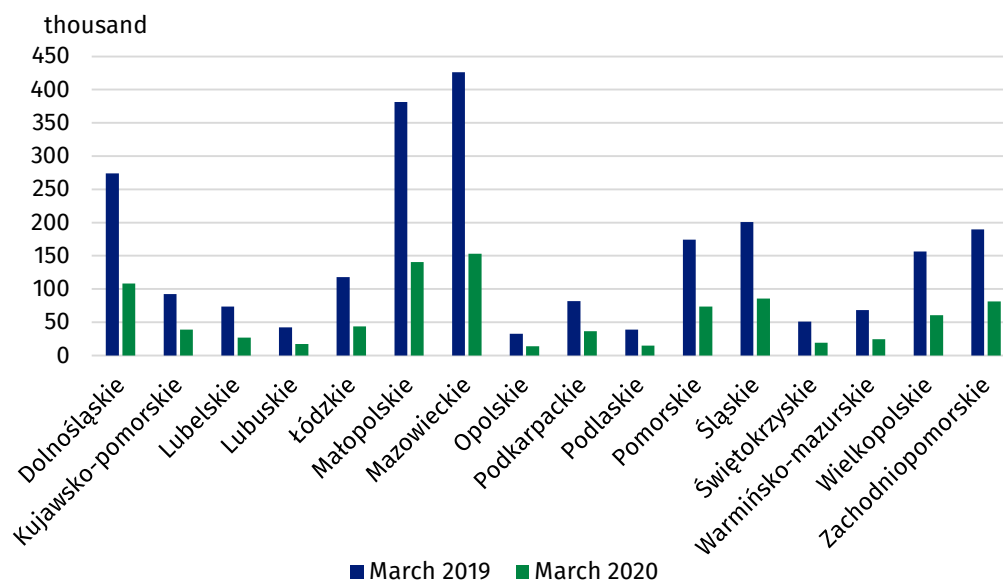
In March this year, the number of tourists accommodated in establishments with 10 or more bed places was about 65% lower than in March last year.

Tourism is one of the sectors directly affected by the current crisis resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. Due to the announcement of an epidemic emergency in Poland since 14 March this year, the activities related to the operation of tourist accommodation establishments and short-stay accommodation as well as health treatment have been limited. The introduced restrictions on the movement of people caused a decrease in the number of tourists accommodated in tourist accommodation establishments in March this year, despite the fact the first half of the month was still a period of normal operation of a large part of the establishments. Decreases in the occupancy of establishments were recorded in all the surveyed types of tourist accommodation establishments, including hotels, regardless of the fact that their activity was formally limited only from the beginning of April this year.

According to preliminary data, in March this year about 935 thousand tourists were accommodated in tourist establishments with 10 or more bed places, including about 165 thousand foreign tourists and 770 thousand domestic tourists. In comparison with the corresponding month of the last year, the total number of tourists was lower by 65%. A decrease in the number of tourists accommodated exceeding the national average was recorded in 6 voivodships: Lubelskie, Łódzkie, Małopolskie, Mazowieckie, Świętokrzyskie and Warmińsko-Mazurskie. The lowest decreases (about 60%) were recorded in Podkarpackie and Śląskie Voivodships. The number of domestic tourists was lower by 63% and of foreign ones by 69%.

It is estimated that in comparison with March 2019, the number of tourists accommodated in hostels decreased the most (by over 70%), and the least in motels (by 55%) and health establishments (by 50%).

Chart 1. **Tourists accommodated by voivodship**



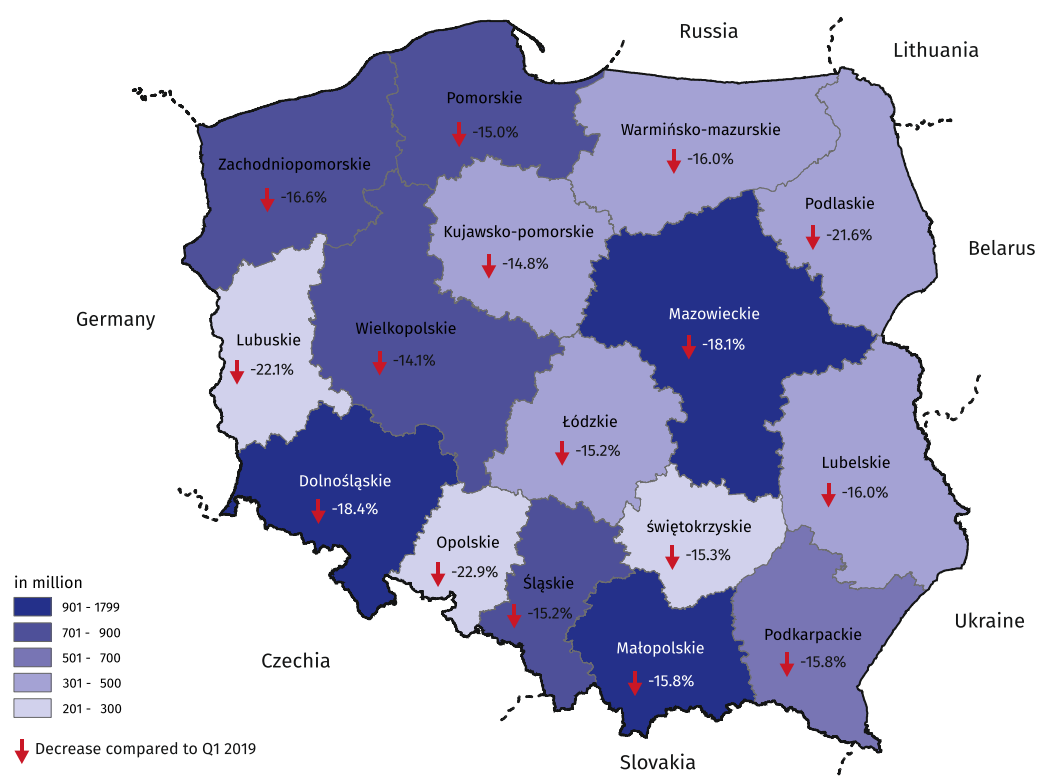
In March 2020, the number of accommodation establishments advertised on popular booking portals decreased. As of 31 March this year, their number dropped by approximately 39% compared to the same day of the previous year.

According to preliminary estimates, in the first quarter of 2020 expenditure of domestic and foreign tourists in Poland amounted to about PLN 10.4 billion (taking into account the rate of growth of expenditure in the first quarters of the last three years and the estimated data on the number of people using tourist accommodation facilities) and were lower by about 17% compared to the same period of the previous year. In the case of same-day visitors - their expenditure in Poland amounted to about PLN 6.6 billion and were lower by about 14% than the year before.

If the current restrictions on the movement of people are maintained in the second quarter of this year, the loss related to the lack of tourism expenditure incurred in Poland can range from around PLN 24.0 billion (taking into account the level of expenditure from the second quarter of 2019) to around PLN 25.7 billion (assuming the growth rate of this expenditure in the period January-March of the last three years).

Preliminary estimates of tourism expenditure in Poland in the first quarter of this year show a 16% decrease compared to the same period of the previous year.

**Map 1. Preliminary estimates of tourists' expenditure in Poland by voivodship in Q1 2020**



## Notes

Information on tourism expenditure in the first and second quarter of 2020 was prepared on the basis of an expert estimation using the results of sample surveys „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”, as well as estimates for March this year from the survey "Tourist accommodation establishments and their occupancy". The estimates refer to people whose trip did not exceed one year and was made for any main purpose (business, leisure or other private) other than employment. In addition to stays in tourist accommodation establishments, free of charge accommodation (e.g. with family) is included in surveys of trips.

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**Related information**

[Tourism in 2018](#)

**Data available in databases**

[Local Data Bank](#)

**Terms used in official statistics**

[Tourist](#)

[Tourist accommodation establishment](#)

[Bed places in tourist accommodation establishments](#)

[Nights spent \(overnight stays\) in tourist accommodation establishments.](#)

[Duration of the stay](#)