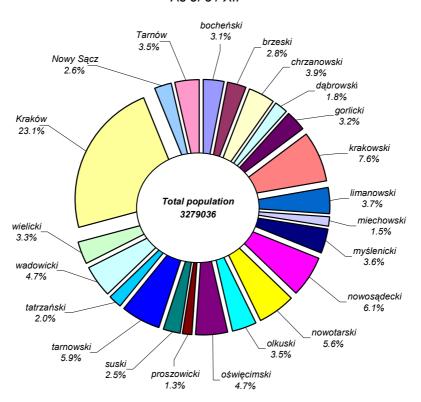
Population and its changes

At the end of 2007 **Małopolskie voivodship numbered 3279.0 thousand residents**, that is more by 0.2% and in absolute numbers more by 7.8 thousand persons than a year ago. The distribution of landed powiats' population, measured by their share in total population of Małopolska, is very diverse.

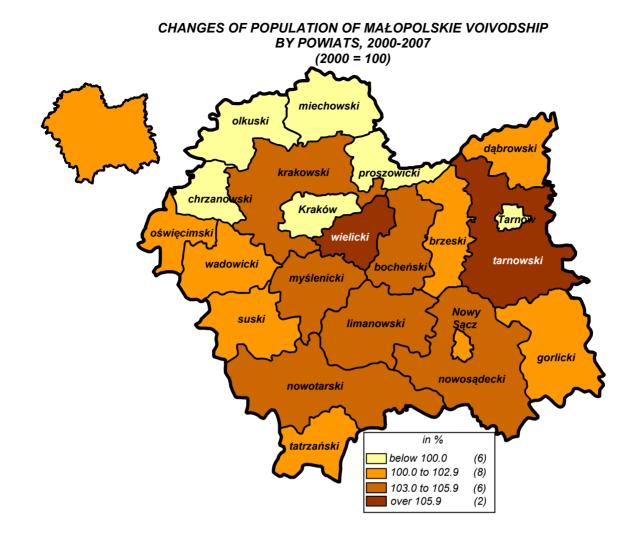
POPULATION IN MAŁOPOLSKIE VOIVODSHIP BY POWIATS IN 2007 As of 31 XII



Most population lives in powiats surrounding cities with powiat status, that is: krakowski, nowosądecki and tarnowski. It results from relatively big area of these powiats and also from a high pace of the actual increase in recent years. In the period 2000-2007 the number of the voivodship's population increased by 1.8%, however in tarnowski powiat relatively by 7.8%, in nowosądecki powiat - by 4.8% and in krakowski powiat - by 4.6%. In last 7 years a good demographic dynamics was achieved also by 4 powiats: wielicki - an increase by 6.3%; myślenicki - by 4.7%; limanowski - by 4.3% and bocheński - an increase by 4.0%.

On the other hand, during last 7 years in four powiats the number of residents decreased - in miechowski powiat - by 2.7%; chrzanowski - by 1.2%; olkuski - by 0.9% and proszowicki - by 0.5%.

At the end of 2007 Kraków numbered 756.6 thousand residents, that is 23.1% of total voivodship's population. In 7-year retrospection the number of the population in Kraków decreased by 0.3%. At the same period Tarnów recorded a decrease of the number of residents by 3.9% and numbered 116.1 thousand persons at the end of 2007. The number of the population in Nowy Sącz increased slightly from 2000 till 2007 and amounted to 84.5 thousand persons at the end of the period under consideration.



A gradual decrease of the number of urban areas' residents has progressed in Małopolskie voivodship since the beginning of the last decade of the 20th century. At the end of 2007 the urbanization rate, that is the percentage of urban population, amounted to 49.4% and it was lower by 2 percentage points than at the beginning of the 90s.

In a spatial breakdown the lowest percentage of urban population was recorded in tarnowski powiat - less than 11% of its total population. The highest urbanization rate - relatively 61.7% and 54.9% characterised chrzanowski and oświęcimski powiat, so the population density in these powiats was the highest (relatively 344 and 377 persons per 1 km²).

In the voivodship's scale at the end of 2007 the **population density** amounted to **216 persons/km²** and it was slightly higher than in the previous 3 years. Kraków with density of 2314 persons/km² has a decisive influence on this relatively big rate (the second in Poland). In Tarnów there are 1613 residents per 1 km² and in Nowy Sącz - 1456.

The lowest population density was recorded in miechowski powiat - 75 persons/km² and relatively low rates - up to 110 persons/km² - occurred in 3 powiats: proszowicki, gorlicki and dąbrowski. A very low level of urbanization is connected with relatively low population density but it does not fully concern tarnowski powiat, which passes 8 other powiats with density of 138 persons/km².

POPULATION DENSITY AND URBANIZATION RATE IN MAŁOPOLSKIE VOIVODSHIP BY POWIATS IN 2007

