

Sarmatian Review Data

Sex education in Poland compared with other EU countries

Types of sex education recognized by the American Academy of Pediatrics: A. abstinence-only education, or chastity education, B. biological sex education, C. the two combined.

Type of sex education used in Poland: A.

Type of sex education used in Sweden, Great Britain, and Germany: B.

Total number of legally aborted pregnancies in Poland (pop. 38 million), Sweden (pop. 9 million), Great Britain (pop. 61 million), and Germany (pop. 82 million) in 2008: Poland, 506; Sweden, 38,049; Great Britain, 209,913; Germany, 114,484.

Number of legally aborted pregnancies by teenagers aged 15–19 in 2008: Poland, 42; Sweden, 7,338; Great Britain, 44,974; Germany, 13,300.

Number of diagnosed cases of HIV and AIDS in 2008: Poland, 912; Sweden, 456; Great Britain, 8,115; Germany, 3,329.

Number of diagnosed cases of HIV and AIDS per 100,000 inhabitants in 2008: Poland, 2.39; Sweden, 4.97; Great Britain, 13.26; Germany, 4.05.

Number of legally aborted pregnancies by teenagers aged 15–19 per 1,000 teenagers in 2008: Poland, 0.03; Sweden, 23.73; Great Britain, 23.15; Germany, 5.88.

Results of Poland using family-oriented chastity education: in 2008 Poland had the lowest number of teenage pregnancies per 1,000 girls in the EU; the lowest number of teenage abortions per 1,000 girls; and the lowest rates of HIV infection and AIDS per 100,000 inhabitants in the EU.

Source: Dr. Krystyna Kluzowa, prof. dr. hab. Janina Palus, dr. hab. Janina Wronicz, "Sex education in Poland compared with selected European Union Countries" (2011), <www.pro-life.pl>, accessed 19 August 2012.

Belief in God vs. atheism in countries of the world in 2008

Ranking of selected countries on atheism: Germany (East) where 52 percent of the population declares itself atheist; Czech Republic, 39.9 percent; Israel, 6 percent; Poland, 3.3 percent; United States, 3.0 percent.

Nonbelief in God over time ("I don't believe in God and I never have"): Germany (East), 59.4 percent; Czech Republic, 51.2 percent; Israel, 8.6 percent; United States, 4.4 percent; Poland, 1.9 percent.

Belief in personal God (agree): United States, 67.6 percent; Poland, 64.1 percent; Israel, 66.5 percent; Russia, 40.8 percent; Czech Republic, 16.1 percent; Germany (East), 8.2 percent.

Strong atheists: Germany (East), 46.1 percent; Czech Republic, 26.2 percent; Israel, 3.3 percent; United States, 1.2 percent; Poland, 0.5 percent.

Source: Tom W. Smith (University of Chicago), "Beliefs about God across Time and Countries," a report written for International Society of Sustainability Professionals (released 18 April 2012).

Chinese power

Number of Chinese students studying at American universities in 2012: 170,000.

Source: Andrea Mitchell, NBC News, 4 May 2012.

Cost of King Harald V's monarchy in Norway vs. cost of Bronisław Komorowski's presidency in Poland

Amount of money taxpayers in Norway spend on maintaining King Harald V, his family and staff: 110 million Polish ZL (ca. 37 million US dollars) per year.

Amount of money Polish taxpayers spend on maintaining President Bronisław Komorowski, his family and his chancery: 180 million Polish ZL (ca. 60 million US dollars) per year.

Source: Professor Herman Mattijs of Brussels' Free University, as reported by *Super Ekspres* on 14 May 2012 (http://www.se.pl/wydarzenia/kraj/komorowski-drozszy-niz-krol_256408.html, accessed 14 May 2012).

German views of Israel Anno Domini 2012

Percentage of Germans who consider Israel to be an aggressive country: 59 percent (10 percent more than in a similar poll in 2009).

Percentage of Germans who believe that human rights are respected in Israel: 21 percent (11 percent drop in comparison to 2009).

Percentage of Germans who think that Germany has no special obligations concerning Israel: 60 percent.

Source: "Israel verliert bei den Deutschen an Ansehen," an opinion poll reported by *Stern*, 23 May 2012 <www.stern.de/politik/deutschland/stern-umfrage-israel-verliert-bei-den-deutschen-an-ansehen-1830648.htm>, accessed 23 May 2012.

Old-fashioned colonialist deals made difficult by technology

Name of the ancient animal whose perfectly assembled skeleton was scheduled for auction by New York's Heritage Auction in May 2012: *Tyrannosaurus bataar*.

Name of country from which it was looted: Mongolia.

Who looted it and when: undisclosed.

Further disposition of this paleontological specimen: Mongolia President Tsakhia Elbegdor was notified of the state of affairs by Mark A. Norell of the American Museum of Natural History. He called a Dallas lawyer Robert Painter (his personal acquaintance); Painter went to the home of a federal judge who issued a temporary restraining order one day before the auction was scheduled. Heritage proceeded with the sale, but when a federal judge in New York signed an order for law enforcement officers to take custody of the dinosaur skeleton, Heritage relented.

Source: *International Herald Tribune*, 21 June 2012.

Health, retirement, and you

Estimated *minimum* amount a 65-year-old American couple retiring in 2012 will spend for health care throughout retirement: \$240,000.

Source: *AARP Bulletin*, vol. 53, no. 6 (July-August 2012), 6.

EU's largesse toward Poland vs. remittances of Poles working abroad

Amount of money Poles working abroad sent back home over the last 17 years: 160 billion ZL, or ca. 50 billion U.S. dollars, a sum exceeding the amount Poland received from the EU to modernize its agriculture and infrastructure.

Percentage of GDP over 17 years attributed to remittances of Poles working abroad: 1.7 percent.

Source: Joint report of Western Union and Center for Social and Economic Research in Poland [a research institute financed from abroad, *Ed.*], released in July 2012.

Extreme poverty in Poland in 2011

Percentage increase in extreme poverty in Poland in 2011 in comparison with 2010: 1 percent, amounting to 400,000 people.

Years when extreme poverty was decreasing: from 12.3 percent in 2005 to 5.6 percent in 2008 [the years when Law and Justice Party headed by Jarosław Kaczyński was in power, *Ed.*].

Years when percentage of the extremely poor stayed the same (5.6 percent to 5.7 percent): 2008–2010.

Number of people in extreme poverty in Poland in 2012: 2.6 million.

Definition of extreme poverty: a single person's income of ZL 495 (ca. U.S. \$130) per month, or a family of four's income of ZL 1336 (\$350) per month (\$4,200 per year for a family of four). By comparison, the poverty line in the United States is \$22,113 per year for a family of four (*NYT* editorial, 9 July 2012).

Source: Central Statistical Office (GUS) Report on "Poverty in Poland in 2011," <http://www.stat.gov.pl/gus/5840_8292_PLK_HTML.htm>, accessed 9 July 2012.

Prices of rail tickets under Tusk and Kaczyński, respectively

Price of rail ticket from Kraków's Central Railway Station to Kraków's Balice Airport in 2012 (distance: 11 kilometers): 19 ZL, or \$6.

Price of the same ticket in 2006: 5 ZL, or \$1.55.

Source: *Z biegiem szyn* [bimonthly on railway system in Mazowsze voivodship], no. 4(60), July-August 2012 <<http://www.zbs.net.pl/zbs60.pdf>>, accessed 11 July 2012.

Case study of unemployment in Poland

Polish county with the highest unemployment: Szydłowiec (100 km southeast of Warsaw), with unemployment of 37.7 percent in March 2012.

Reasons for unemployment: Skalbud Company closure of sandstone quarry by Skalbud Company that went bankrupt in 2002 in the process of "introducing capitalism;" recent group layoffs in Profel, a company producing electronic equipment; bankruptcy of cement factory in Wierzbica; and low level of education of the unemployed, of whom 61.1 percent have not graduated from high school (70 percent of inhabitants of Szydłowiec county come from farming areas).

Source: *Z biegiem szyn* [bimonthly on railway system in Mazowsze voivodship], no. 4(60), July-August 2012 <<http://www.zbs.net.pl/zbs60.pdf>>, accessed 11 July 2012.