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U3A in Poland in 2018

Resource: Uniwersytety trzeciego wieku w Polsce w 2018 r

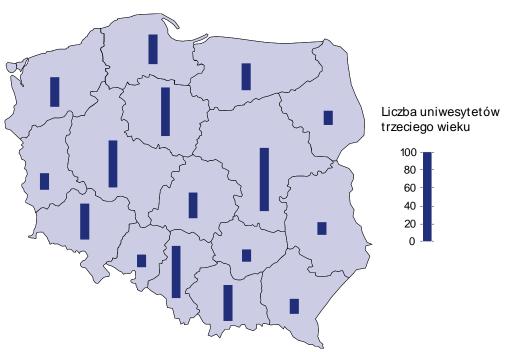
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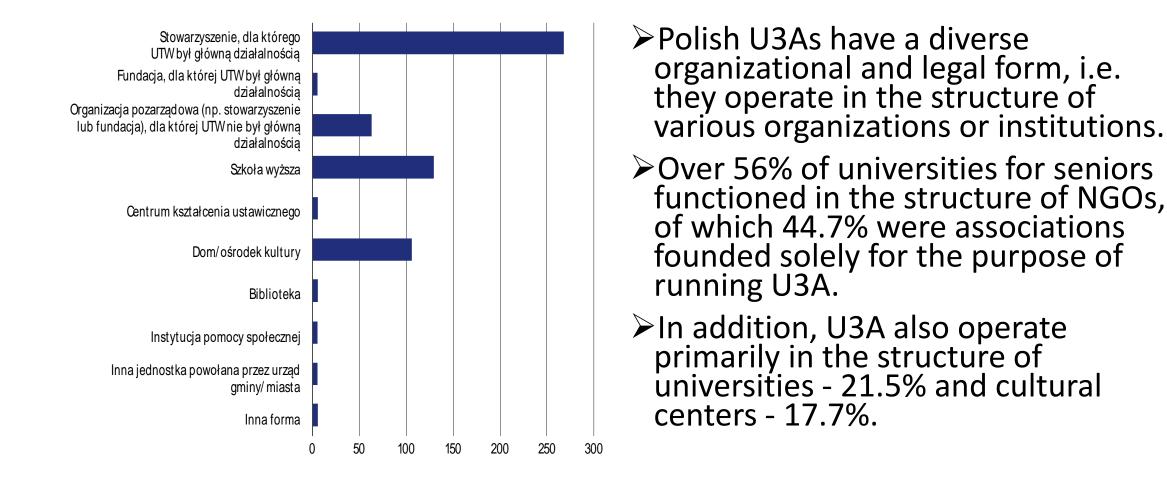
Translation and adaptation done by dr Anna Grabowska

599 out of 640 operating U3A took part in the statistical survey carried out in 2018



- In 2018, 640 Universities of the Third Age (U3A) operated in Poland, i.e. entities whose main goal is educational activities, integration and activation of older people in order to improve the quality of life and increase their participation in a social life.
- U3A operated in all voivodships.
- The majority of U3AW (80) were located in the Mazowieckie voivodship (12.5% of the total number of U3A), and the smallest number in Lublin, Opole, Świętokrzyskie voivodships (2.5% each)

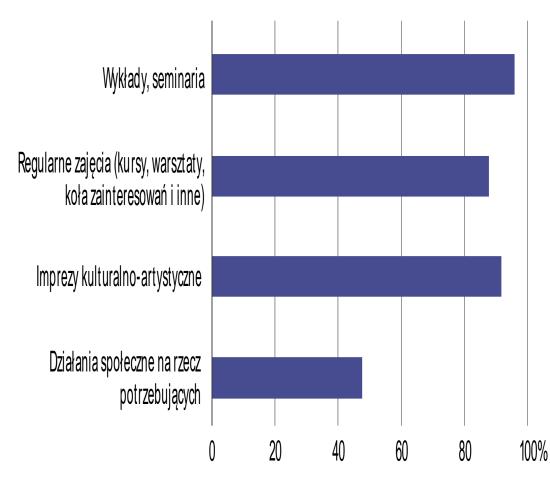
Organizational and legal form of the Polish U3A



Educational offer of Polish U3A

- The task of the Polish U3A is primarily to organize and conduct lectures, seminars, regular classes, including workshops, courses, interest groups, cultural and artistic activities, as well as social activities for people in need.
- Of the U3As that took part in the statistical survey, 575 units had lectures and seminars in their educational offer.
- Slightly less, 526 units, offered students regular classes, among which sport classes (88.2%), language courses (81.4%) and artistic classes (73.0%) dominated.
- Nearly 70% of U3As offered students computer classes.
- On a national scale, average attendance of listeners in regular classes it was over 63%, and nine U3As showed 100% attendance.

Dividing U3As according to the forms of conducted educational and other activities



Lectures and seminars

Courses, workshops, interests groups

Cultural and artistic activities



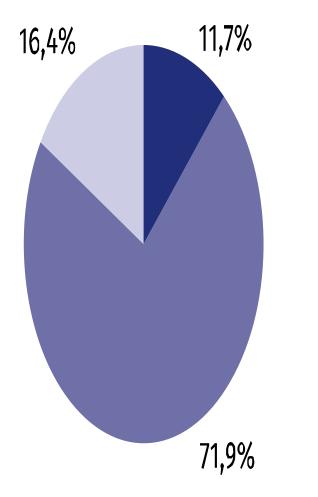
More statistic regarding U3A offer

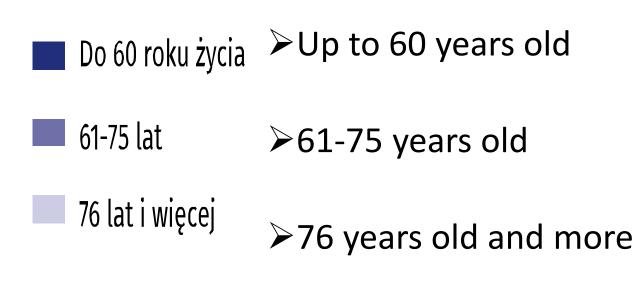
- Another form of U3As activities are cultural and artistic events offered by 550 units.
- Trips and tourism were the most popular, organized by 98.8% of U3A, as well as going to the cinema, theater, museum or other cultural institutions (92.1%).
- Social activities for the benefit of people in need from outside U3A were carried out by 285 units. The help of U3A students was directed mainly to the elderly (67.7%), the local community (63.7%) and children and youth (52.3%).

U3A teaching staff and students

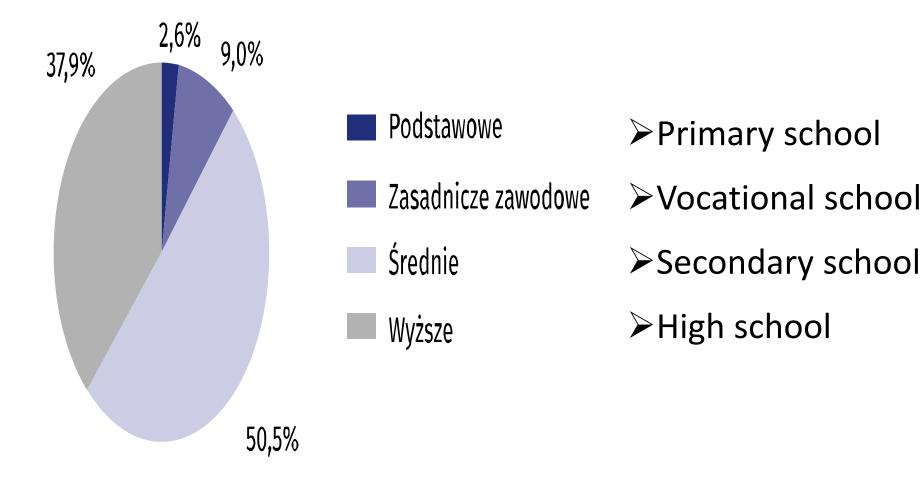
- Among nearly 14 thousand lecturers, the largest group were academic teachers (without foreign language teachers) - over 4.1 thousand
- Some 41.1% of the teaching staff worked for UTW for free. The largest group of free lecturers or lecturers were themselves (85.1%), while U3A most often incurred expenses to pay professional instructors and trainers - over 77% of them received remuneration for work.
- In all U3A a total of 113.2 thousand students, including 95.4 thousand women.
- The majority of studying seniors are people aged 61-75 (71.9%).
- In terms of the level of education, people having secondary school education dominated (50.5%), and in cross-section according to the status on the labor market the majority of students had the status of a pensioner (87.9%).
- The largest U3A in Poland had 2,536 students.

U3A students by age

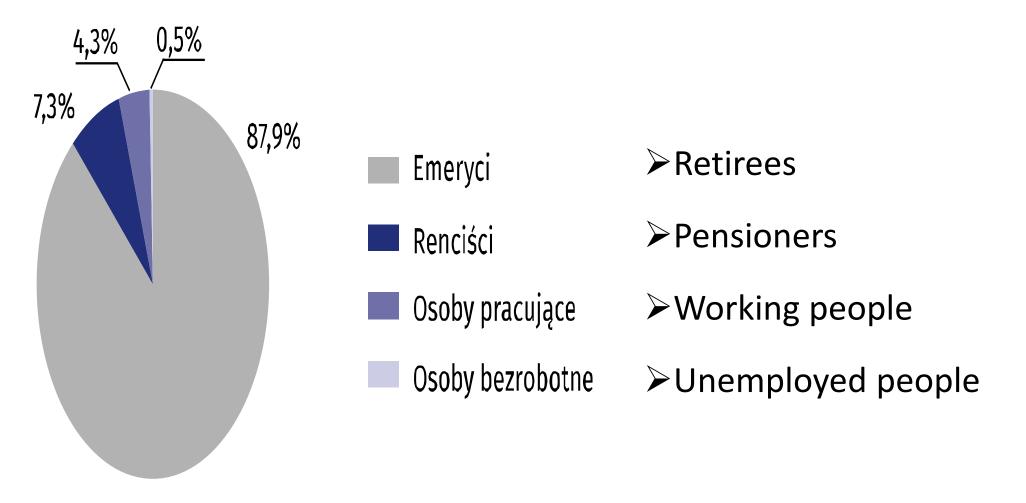




U3A students by education level



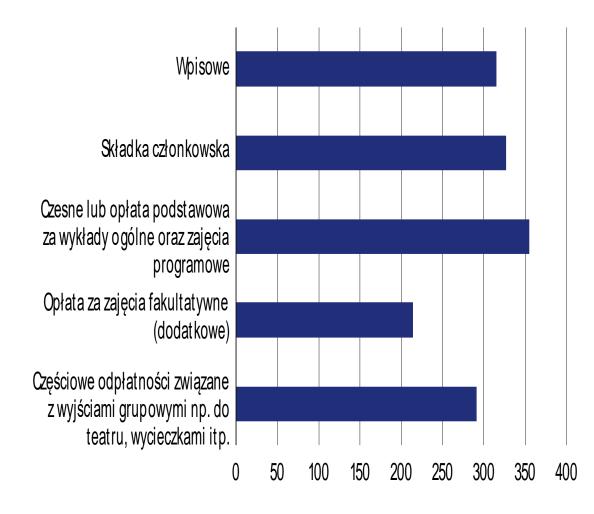
U3A students by status on the labor market



U3A fees

- U3As in Poland were primarily supported by funds collected from candidates and students.
- 95.5% of U3A charged fees to students.
- Student fees (enrollment, tuition, class fees) for 35.9% of units were the main source of income.
- For 24.7% of universities, the main source of financing were subsidies from local government funds.
- The budgets for running universities in the third century varied widely from PLN 110 to over PLN 2 million.
- 355 U3As (59.3%) charged the student with an annual tuition or basic fee for general lectures and program classes of PLN 1.

U3A fees



≻entry fee

>membership fee

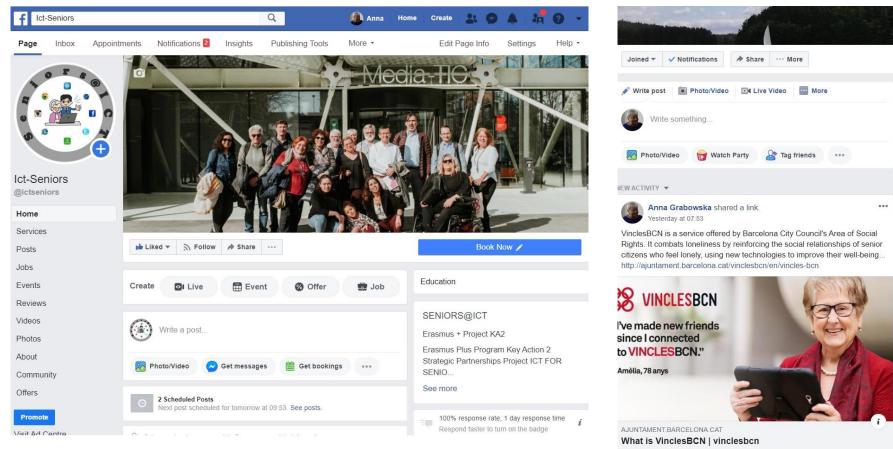
➤tuition or basic fee

➢ payment for optional classes

partial payments for group events (e.g. theater, trips)

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