

First aid and emergency medical services in 2019

26.05.2020

↓ 1.5%

Decrease in the number of persons who received health care benefits in the occurrence place compared to 2018

In 2019 emergency rescue teams provided health care benefits in the occurrence place to more than 3.1 million of persons. Almost 4.6 million of persons received health care benefits in hospital emergency wards or admission rooms under the outpatient treatment while more than 1.5 million of persons received health care benefits in hospital emergency wards under the inpatient treatment.

Units of the State Emergency Medical Services System (denoted as PRM)

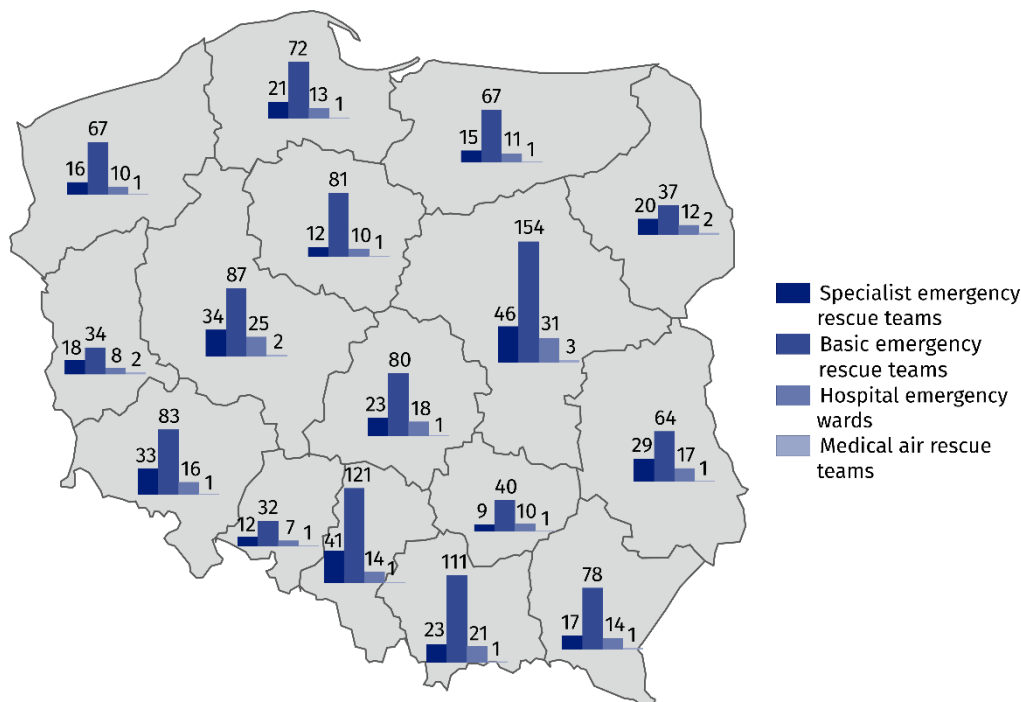
The State Emergency Medical Services System¹ covered functioning of the 1 577 of emergency rescue teams (369 specialist and 1 208 basic). Compared with previous years the number of specialist teams has been decreasing while the number of basic teams has been increasing.

The emergency medical treatment was also offered by 21 medical air rescue teams and 237 hospital emergency wards (denoted as SOR). The cooperating units role was played by 155 admission rooms, 17 trauma centers providing health care services to patients with multiple multi-organ injuries and 8 children trauma centers.

In 2019 the State Emergency Medical Services System covered: 1 577 emergency rescue teams, 21 medical air rescue teams and 237 hospital emergency wards

Map 1. Units of the State Emergency Medical Services System by voivodships in 2019

As of 31st December



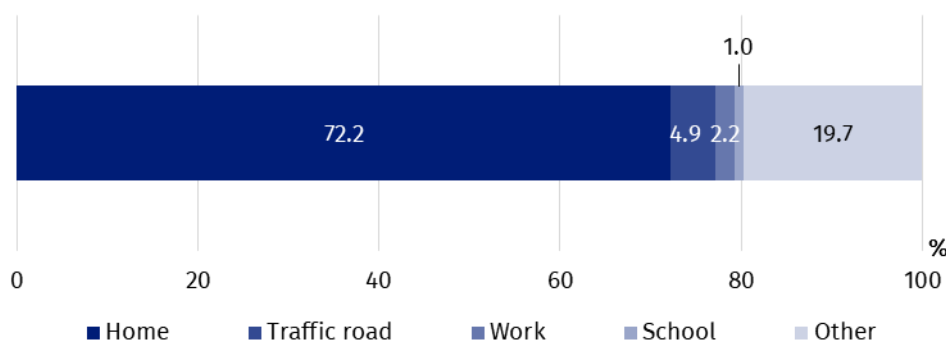
¹ The amendment to the Law on the State Emergency Medical Services came into force on 1st of April 2019. According to this only public entities can be the owners of the emergency rescue teams operated within the State Emergency Medical Services System. As a result of the amendment the emergency rescue teams have been taken over between the owners, that could be also private entities till the end of March 2019.

Emergency rescue teams, medical air rescue teams

The emergency rescue teams provided medical treatment for patients whose life is threatened. Compared to the previous year the number of calls of the emergency rescue teams (including medical air rescue teams) to the occurrence places decreased by 52.5 thousand. There were almost 3.1 million of calls of the emergency rescue teams (including medical air rescue teams) during which the emergency medical activities were provided. The most common type of calls to the occurrence place was patient's home (72.2% of the total calls).

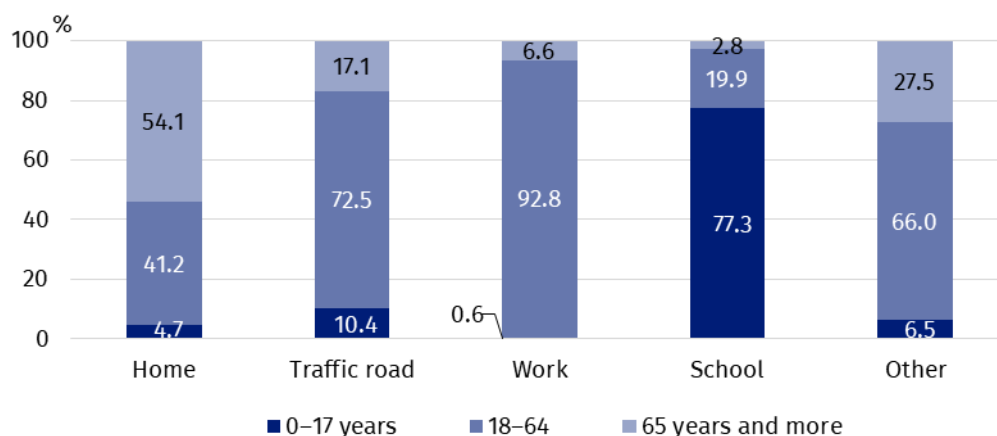
Almost 3.1 million of calls of the emergency rescue teams to the occurrence places were recorded, of which 72.2% was at the patients' home

Chart 1. The structure of calls of the emergency rescue teams to the occurrence places by the type of occurrence place in 2019



The emergency rescue teams provided medical treatment to over 3.1 million of persons, of which 6.0% were children and youth up to age 18, and 45.4% – persons aged 65 and more. The treatment was provided more often to men (52.8%) than women (47.2%).

Chart 2. The structure of age of persons who received health care benefits in the place of occurrence by the type of occurrence place in 2019

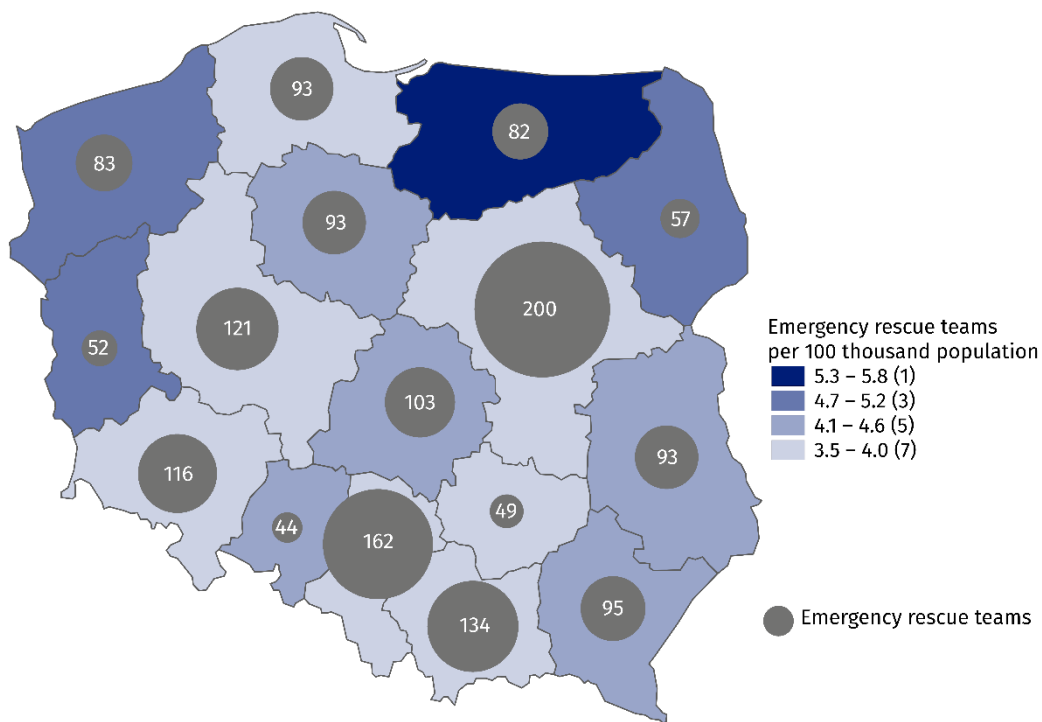


The ratio of the number of emergency rescue teams per 100 thousand population was at the level of 4.1 in 2019. The maximum value (5.8) was observed in Warmińsko-mazurskie Voivodship and the minimum value (3.5) in Wielkopolskie Voivodship.

Over 4 emergency rescue teams per 100 thousand population in 2019

Map 2. Emergency rescue teams by voivodships in 2019

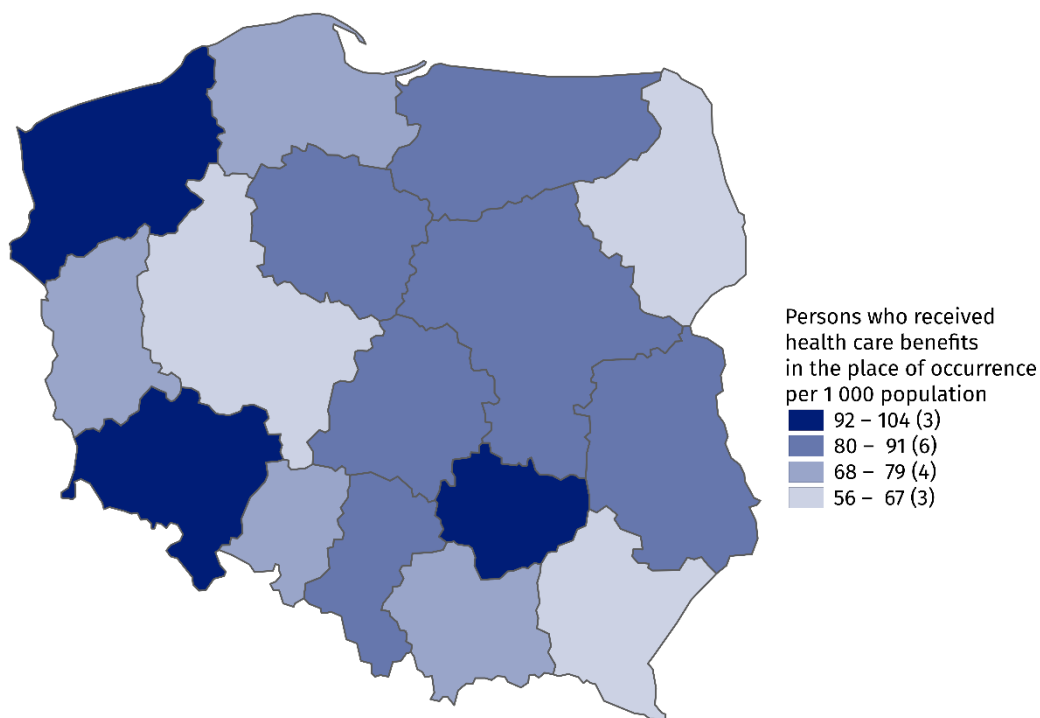
As of 31st December



In Poland, per 1 thousand population there were more than 81 persons to whom the emergency rescue teams provided medical treatment. The maximum value (56) was observed in Wielkopolskie Voivodship and the minimum value (104) in Zachodniopomorskie Voivodship.

In 2019 the emergency rescue teams provided medical treatment to over 81 persons per 1 thousand population

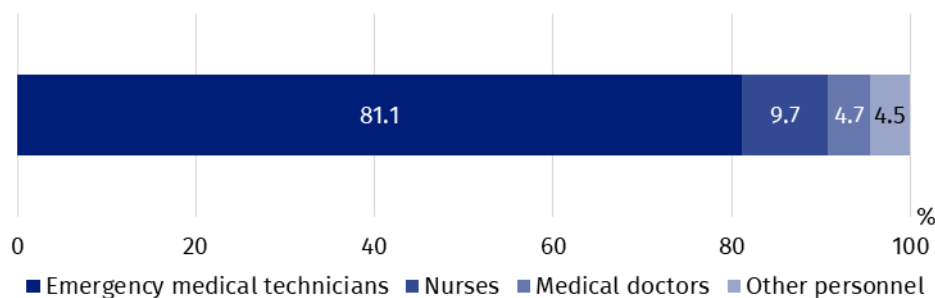
Map 3. Persons who received health care benefits in the place of occurrence by voivodships in 2019



As of 31st of December 2019, the number of medical personnel of emergency rescue teams amounted to 12.7 thousand workers² (nearly 1.1 thousand less as compared to 2018). The largest group – over 10.3 thousand – were constituted by emergency medical technicians. Moreover, there were over 1.2 thousand of nurses, 0.6 thousand of medical doctors and 0.6 thousand of other personnel³. Compared to the previous year the increase of the share of emergency medical technicians in the structure of medical personnel of emergency rescue teams was observed (by 7.3%).

Chart 3. The structure of medical personnel of emergency rescue teams in 2019

As of 31st December



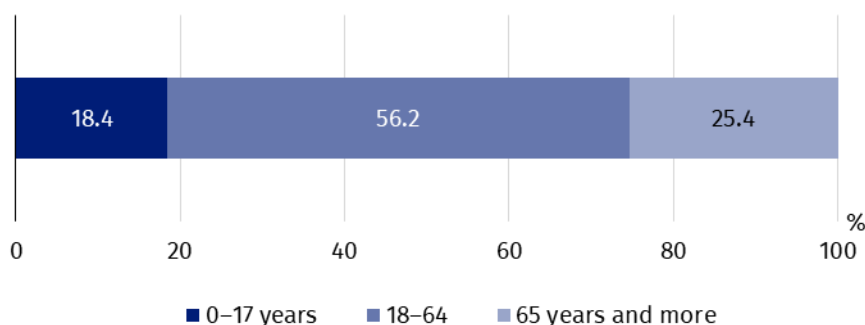
Hospital emergency wards, admission rooms

Hospital emergency wards (SOR) provide medical treatment of two distinct kind: outpatient treatment (with no subsequent hospitalization) and inpatient treatment. In both hospital emergency wards and admission rooms the largest number of services was provided under the outpatient treatment.

In 2019 the number of patients who received health care benefits in both hospital emergency wards and admission rooms under the outpatient treatment amounted to almost 4.6 million persons, while in the hospital emergency wards under the inpatient treatment – over 1.5 million. Children and youth up to age 18 stood for 18.4% of total number of treated in hospital emergency wards or in admission rooms while persons aged 65 and more – 25.4%.

In 2019 the number of persons who received health care benefits under outpatient treatment in both hospital emergency wards and admission rooms amounted to almost 4.6 million

Chart 4. The structure of age of persons who received health care benefits in the hospital emergency wards or admission rooms in 2019



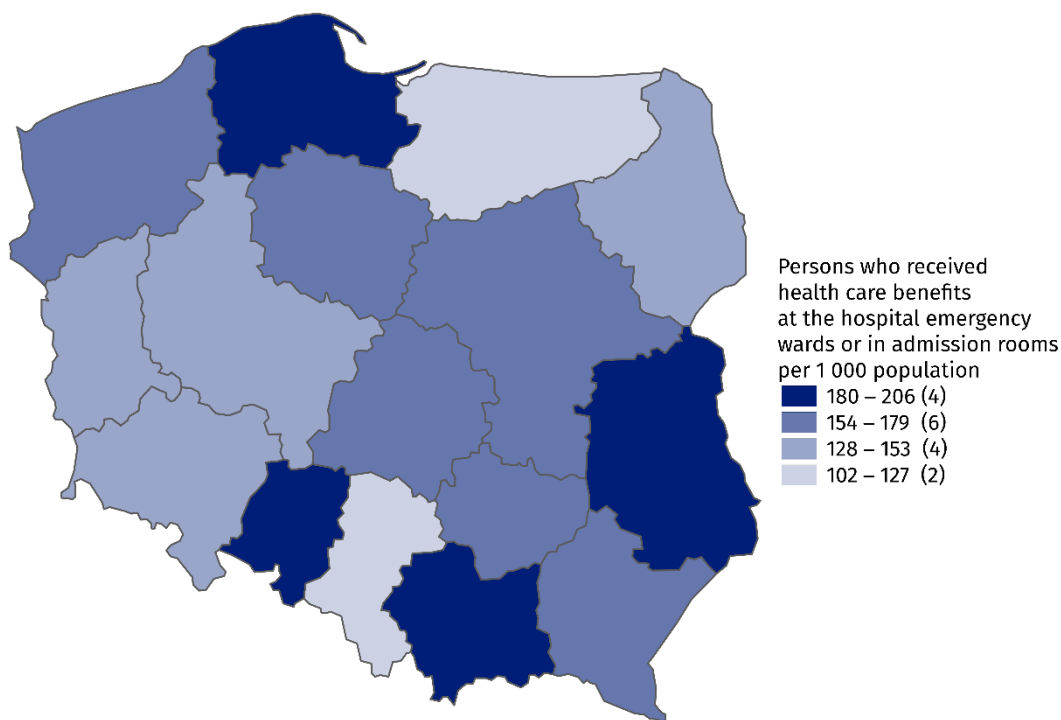
In hospital emergency wards the inpatient treatment was provided to over 1.5 million persons

At the national level, there were 160 persons who received health care benefits in the hospital emergency wards or in admission rooms per 1 thousand population. The maximum ratio of persons who received medical treatment in these places per 1 thousand population was observed in Lubelskie Voivodship (206) and the minimum value (102) in Śląskie Voivodship.

² Medical personnel for whom it was the main workplace, regardless of the form of employment contract.

³ Drivers and pilots.

Map 4. Persons who received health care benefits in the hospital emergency wards or admission rooms per 1 000 population by voivodships in 2019

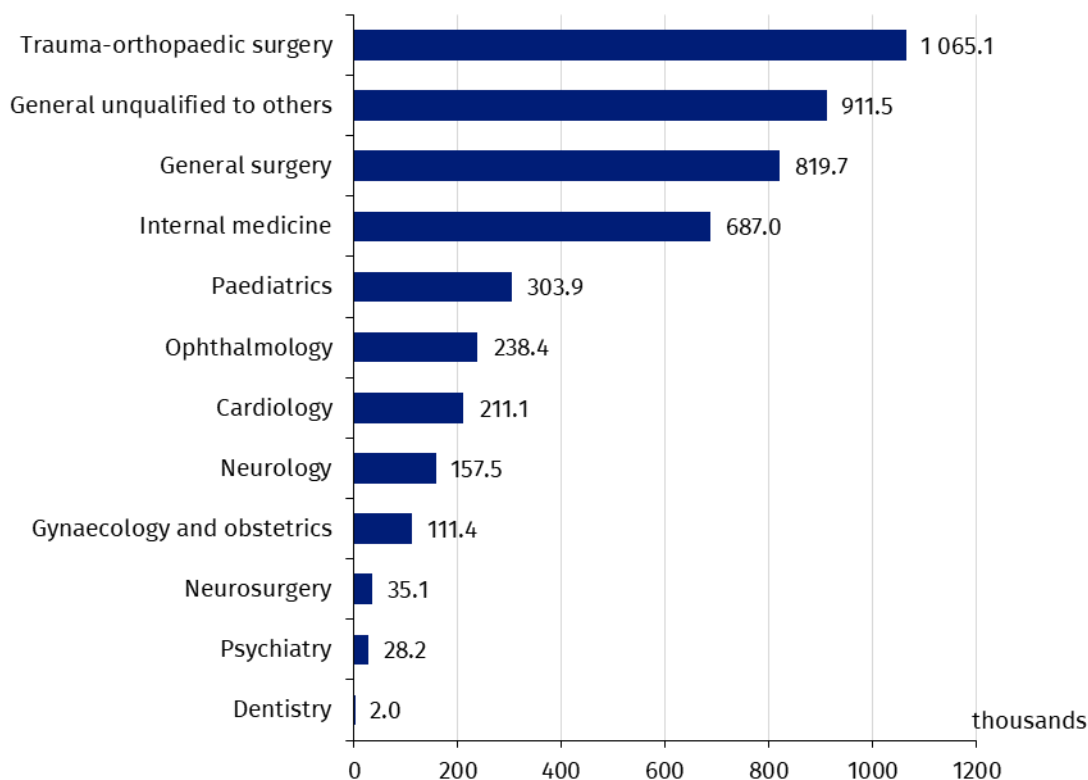


Among persons who received health care benefits in the hospital emergency wards or in admission rooms under the outpatient treatment, there were 48.0% of women, 19.5% of children and youth up to age 18 and 24.6% of persons aged 65 years and more.

The group of persons who received health care benefits under the outpatient treatment most frequently used the trauma-orthopaedic surgery type of services (23.3% of patients), followed by general surgery (17.9%) and internal medicine (15.0%).

Persons who received health care benefits under the outpatient treatment most frequently used the trauma-orthopaedic surgery services (23.3% of patients)

Chart 6. Persons who received health care benefits in the hospital emergency wards or in admission rooms under the outpatient treatment by the type of services in 2019



Prepared by:
Statistical Office in Kraków
Director Agnieszka Szlubowska
Office: tel. (+48 12) 420 40 50

Issued by:
**The Spokesperson for the President
of Statistics Poland**
Karolina Banaszek
Mobile: (+48) 695 255 011

Press Office

Office: tel. (+48 22) 608 34 91, 608 38 04

e-mail: obslugaprasowa@stat.gov.pl



www.stat.gov.pl/en



[@StatPoland](https://twitter.com/StatPoland)



[@GlownyUrzadStatystyczny](https://www.facebook.com/GlownyUrzadStatystyczny)

Related information

[Health and health care in 2018](#)

[Methodological report. Health and health care statistics – Statistics Poland's reports](#)

Data available in databases

[Local Data Bank -> Health care, social welfare and benefits to the family](#)

[Analytical Platform – SWAID – Knowledge Databases -> Health and Health care](#)

Terms used in official statistics

[Emergency medical services](#)

[Units of emergency medical service](#)

[Hospital emergency ward](#)

[The place of occurrence](#)

[Trauma center](#)