



KATOWICE
for a change



**MOVE TO
KATOWICE**
- IT FEELS LIKE
HOME



WELCOME

Photo: Jeremi Astaszow / Katowice City Hall

Photo: Jeremi Astaszow / Katowice City Hall



1. Why's it worth?

- the central city of the Metropolis GZM* with over 2.2 million population
- high level of education – nationally important academic center: Katowice ranked 2nd in Poland with 177 students per 1,000 inhabitants
- very well developed health infrastructure – 313 clinics and medical practices in Katowice alone (*CSO of Poland 2019*)
- one of the lowest unemployment rate in Katowice 1.8% (*CSO of Poland 2021*)
- great work opportunities: 114 BPO, SSC/GBS, IT and R&D centers; 49,860 national economic entities operating in Katowice (*CSO of Poland 2021*)
- present top companies from business services sector: Accenture Advanced Technology Center, Arvato Financial Solutions, Capgemini, Bombardier, Diebold Nixdorf, Fujitsu Technology Solutions, Guardian, Honeywell Services, Hyland, IBM Global Services Delivery Center, Infobip, ING TECH Poland, ista, JAMF, JCommerce, Keywords Studios, Knauf IT Services, Mentor Graphics, PwC Service Delivery Center, Rockwell Automation, Sii, Sopra Steria, Teleperformance Polska, TÜV Rheinland, Unilever
- very well developed transport infrastructure – the best road network in Poland, promoting the development of sustainable transport (friendly to pedestrians, drivers, cyclists, people using public transport), an access to 3 international airports (within a 100 km radius)
- majority of European capitals or airline transfer hubs available within 5 hours total travel time with nearby the fastest developing airport in Poland (Katowice Airport, 30 km from Katowice)
- competitive cost of living – 38.39 cost of living index in Katowice (lower compared to other cities of the similar size in Poland) and with the purchasing power for the Metropolis GZM at the level of 45% (higher than the national average)
- very diverse range of residential properties – 13,987 apartments were completed in 2019 (12.1% more apartments than a year ago)
- over 50% of the city is covered by green areas
- high quality of life (many cultural, sport events, investments in social and sports infrastructure, etc.)
- recognizable Silesian hospitality

* Metropolis GZM (*Górnos Śląsko-Zagłębiowska Metropolia*) covers nearly one-third of the area of the entire Silesian Voivodeship, and half of all residents of the Province live within the boundaries of the discussed area. The Metropolis is composed of 41 towns and municipalities: Będzin, Bieruń, Bobrowniki, Bojszowy, Bytom, Chełm Śląski, Chorzów, Czeladź, Dąbrowa Górnicza, Gierałtówice, Gliwice, Imielin, Katowice, Knurów, Kobiór, Łędziny, Łaziska Górne, Mierzęcice, Mikołów, Mysłowice, Ożarówice, Piekary Śląskie, Pilchowice, Psary, Pyskowice, Radzionków, Ruda Śląska, Rudziniec, Siemianowice Śląskie, Siewierz, Sławków, Sosnowiec, Sośnicowice, Świerkłaniec, Świętochłowice, Tarnowskie Góry, Tychy, Wojkowice, Wry, Zabrze, Zbrosławice.



Photo: Jeremi Astaszow / Katowice City Hall



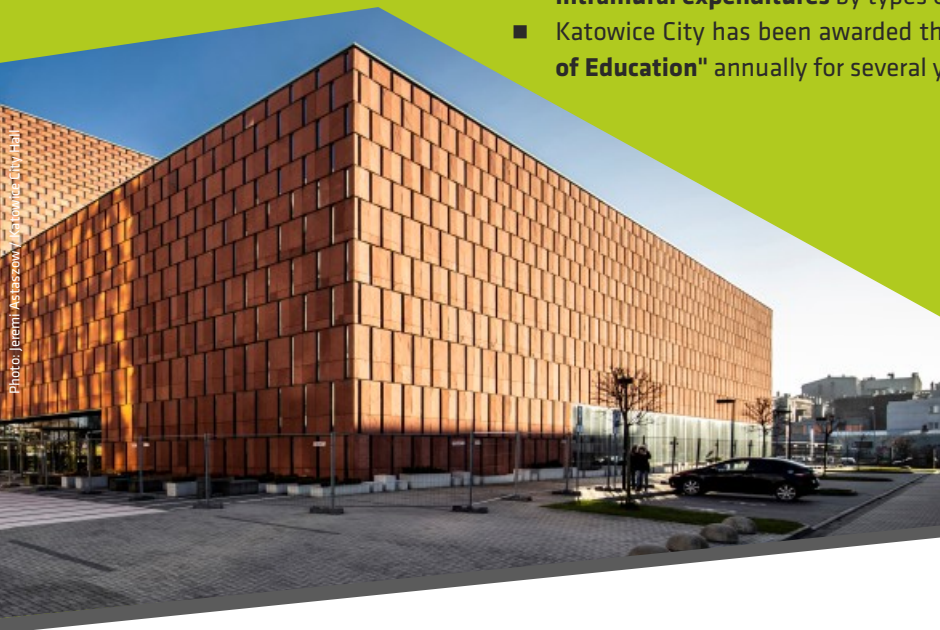
Katowice has a very well developed infrastructure, which is constantly enriched with new investments, which aim to improve the quality of life of residents and strengthen the investment potential of the city. It is worth emphasizing that in Katowice only in 2021 as much as 22% of the city budget has been planned for infrastructure investments. This shows the scale of changes taking place in Katowice in recent years. Katowice is a member of Metropolis GZM, which is the best-connected area in Poland, both in terms of road, rail and air transport. Its characteristic feature is the spatial coherence with a well-organized public transport network. The city is also an important academic center on a national scale, it also provides a wide educational offer for children

and youth. In terms of health protection, Silesian Voivodeship stands out not only nationwide, but also internationally. There are a number of high-level healthcare units in the region that can boast of specialized equipment and highly qualified medical staff.

Education and child care



- **55 primary schools, 4 primary schools for adults, 16 high schools – including bilingual and international baccalaureate classes, 16 technical schools, 79 kindergartens and 57 nurseries** in Katowice
- **18 universities** – central academic center
- **85,655 students and 22,757 graduates** a year in Metropolis
- Silesian Voivodeship is the **2nd R&D center in the country**, which includes scientific and research units and institutes, as well as universities conducting independent research activity or in cooperation with business. **2nd biggest R&D center in Poland in terms of number of entities in R&D (662)** and as well **2nd R&D center in terms of total intramural expenditures** by types of costs on R&D (*CSO of Poland 2019*)
- Katowice City has been awarded the title of **"Local Government Leader of Education"** annually for several years



Healthcare



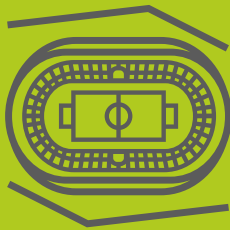
- **136 general hospitals** in Silesian Voivodeship (*CSO of Poland 2019*), this number significantly exceeds the number of general hospitals in other voivodeships
- **194 inhabitants per one bed** in general hospitals in Silesian Voivodeship (*CSO of Poland 2019*), this indicator in Silesian Voivodeship looks the most advantageous in the whole of Poland
- **24.5 doctors** working with patients at 10 thousand of the population in Silesian Voivodeship (*CSO of Poland 2019*)
- **54.7 nurses** working with patients at 10 thousand of the population in Silesian Voivodeship (*CSO of Poland 2019*)
- **highly specialized medical centers** in the treatment of heart diseases, burns, traumatic surgeries and cancer diseases
- **well-developed network of private clinics:** Medicover, LUX MED, ENEL-MED, POLMED, etc.

Public Transport



- **over 400 bus lines, 30 tram and 7 trolleybus lines** in Metropolis
- multimodal transportation network with **4 new transfer hubs** "Ligota" (2018) and "Zawodzie", "Brynów Pętla", and "Sądowa" with **International Bus Station** (2020)
- **Metrobilet** – one ticket for all means of transport in Metropolis (bus, tram, trolleybus, trains of Silesian Railway)
- **free of charge public transport for children and young people** up to the age of 16 who live in Metropolis

Sport facilities



- **over 500 sports facilities** in the city: including **25** swimming pools, **3** water playgrounds for children, **50** tennis courts, **160** sports fields
- **City by bike** – **107** bicycle stations with ca. **690** bicycles, over **180 km** of bicycle infrastructure with **85 km** scenic paths in green areas (forests, parks)
- **306** sports clubs and associations
- **Airport Katowice-Muchowiec** – a civil sports airport, located in the city center



Investments implemented for residents use



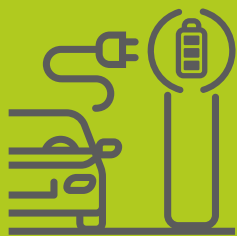
The numerous investments are underway in Katowice to develop social infrastructure. Thanks to this, the quality of life of the inhabitants clearly improves every year. It is also worth mentioning that in Katowice was implemented the Participatory Budget, which is one of the key tools for the activation of residents. By casting vote on specific ideas, the residents of Katowice have a real impact on what the part of the city's budget will be spent. It is important that the amount allocated for this purpose in Katowice is one of the largest among voivodeship cities per capita. Only to summarize the last 7th edition in 2020 of the Participatory

Budget in Katowice residents submitted 415 proposals for public tasks. In the end, after formal and legal verification and appeal procedure, residents voted for a record number of 319 projects. Due to the launch of the Green Budget in Katowice and the COVID-19, in 2020 the pool amounted to PLN 17 M and was once again the largest in Poland per capita among voivodeship cities. In 2020 finally 122 projects were chosen for the implementation. Over the last six years of the Participatory Budget ca. 600 projects have been submitted by residents and completed in Katowice, with a value exceeding PLN 80 M.

The most important infrastructure projects in Katowice, which are currently underway: Reconstruction of Dworcowa and Tylna Mariacka St. (planned budget – PLN 4,016,204), Katowice Bicycle Infrastructure (planned budget – PLN 54,796,579), Extension of National Road 81 from the interchange of A4 motorway with National Road 86 to the constructed interchange with Armii Krajowej St. – Stage I (planned budget – PLN 298,525,140), Revitalization of the Five Ponds Valley (planned budget – PLN 50,000,000).



Smart City/Electromobility



Katowice focuses on sustainable development in many areas and is an undeniable leader in the field of electromobility in Poland. The city puts the spotlight on ecological and smart transport solutions based on electricity in many dimensions: electric buses and the most extensive tram network (public transport), car-sharing, also electric cars (shared car transport), as well as electric scooters and scooters (last mile/kilometer transport – multimodal transport). In addition, the intelligent city of Katowice has implemented, among others,

an intelligent LED lighting system, Low-Emission Economy Plan, KISMIA monitoring system that improves pedestrian and car traffic. Undoubtedly, in the area of implementing modern solutions of the smart city concept, we can expect many more positive changes in Katowice, which will ultimately have an impact on a greater comfort of residents living in.

- **4 modern integrated transfer hubs** in the park & ride system with over **1,100** parking spaces
- **124 charging points** for electric cars, next planned to be open
- **modern electric buses** and constantly modernized bus and tramway rolling stock
- **shared services** provided by cars, scooters and electric scooters
- **Katowice Intelligent Monitoring and Analysis System (KISMIA)** independently detects and alerts about various events such as: concourse, devastation, lying man, forbidden driving or parking offences (274 cameras, detection of criminal events, effective interventions of city services)
- **AWAIR – the largest air monitoring system in Poland**, consists of 127 sensors installed throughout the city and 154 screens showing PM10 and PM2.5 concentrations of suspended dust
- **Śląska Karta Usług Publicznych ŚKUP** – enables paying for public transport, parking or services at institutions accepting ŚKUP card payments
- **Katowice being the first city in Poland to introduce Low-Emission Economy Plan** – the most important document containing strategic goals and a set of projects related to a sustainable and low-emission energy management in the city



Green areas/environmental protection



Katowice is one of the greenest cities in Poland, the so-called green lungs of the metropolitan area, it is also a favorite resting place for residents and tourists. Active recreation in Katowice's forests and parks is facilitated by a network of walking and cycling routes running through the most recreationally interesting areas of the city.

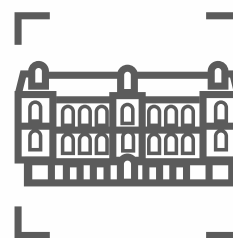
- over **50% of the city is covered by green areas**: Ochojec Nature Reserve and Murckowski Forest, Three Ponds Valley, "Szopienice-Borki" nature and landscape complex, T. Kościuszki Park and Silesia Park – being one of the largest downtown parks in Europe (located on the border of Katowice, Chorzów and Siemianowice Śląskie), with i.a. a zoo, a planetarium and an amusement park
- the city being actively involved in **activities aimed at developing pro-ecological attitudes** among residents through social campaigns and tasks in the field of ecological education, e.g. Let's sow urban meadows action, Family Picnic Day in the Forest – Eco-responsibility, Szluknij się z kokotka – "Gulp from the tap", Plant-a-Tree application (wCOP drzewo), etc.
- Katowice being recognized, among others, by Forbes Magazine, with the title of the most ecological city in Poland both in 2018 and 2019



Tourist attractions

Katowice is located in a very attractive tourist region, famous for its industrial, technical and historical heritage, as well as many natural values.

- **Zone of Culture:** the Silesian Museum, the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra (NOSPR), the International Congress Center (MCK), the Spodek Arena – are one of the most recognizable points on the map of Katowice
- **Route of Modernism** is an area designated by 16 buildings with unique pre-war modernist architecture, thanks to which Katowice was called "Polish Chicago"
- **Nikiszowiec & Giszowiec** – historic, more than a century old mining housing estates, places where you can still feel the atmosphere of old industrial Silesia
- **Wilson Shaft Gallery** – a gallery of contemporary art opened in the revitalized building of the Wilson shaft hall and shafts of the "Wieczorek" mine, whose history dates back to 1826, the main goal of the Gallery is to promote young, brave painters, graphic artists, photographers and performers
- **Silesian Porcelain Factory** in Katowice belongs to the Industrial Monuments Route – the only such route in Central and Eastern Europe belonging to the European Industrial Heritage Trail (ERIH), within a complex from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, there are very valuable post-industrial architecture objects, i.a. buildings of the old kiln, paint shop or pattern room used for nearly 100 years for the production of porcelain, as well as the water tower and chimney so characteristic of the Upper Silesian landscape
- **Walcownia – Museum of Zinc Metallurgy** – is a post-industrial historic building equipped with a rolling line and steam machines from 1903
- **Center for Ecological Education (CEE) in Katowice-Murcki** within the center there are 3 workshops, a clay kiln, nature complex: beech tree school (plant protected in the nearby Reserve – Murkowski Forest), show insect breeding utility garden and sensory – botanical garden



Culture



Katowice hosts numerous entertainment, artistic and cultural events of international reach, which are recognized by the audience and creators. The significance of Katowice on the cultural map of the continent was confirmed by giving the city the title of **UNESCO City of Music in 2015**. Numerous cinemas, theaters, museums and exhibitions provide access to high culture for both residents and guests. The largest number of mass events (873) in 2019 in Poland took place in Silesian Voivodeship, furthermore in Silesian Voivodeship in 2019 participated the largest number of people (4.3 M) in mass events (*CSO of Poland 2019*). Whereas in Katowice took place the largest business event in Poland in 2019 – Intel Extreme Master (IEM) with 174,000 participants.

- **Silesian Museum** was established in the revitalized areas of the former mine „Katowice”, over 80% of the museum exhibitions are located underground, thanks to the use of modern architectural solutions, their collections are presented in daylight, at a depth of over 13 meters
- **Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra (NOSPR)** – one of the best concert halls in the world with a rich musical repertoire
- **wide offer of restaurants** (also distinguished by Gault&Millau), clubs and pubs
- **Mariacka Street** – the most popular pedestrian street in Katowice, it lures with extraordinary music and pubs, unforgettable parties and events, summer movies and theatre plays
- **wide cultural offer:** 22 theaters, 74 museums (including branches), 55 cinemas, 36 art galleries in Silesian Voivodeship (*CSO of Poland 2019*)
- **Katowice – the city of great events:** the European Economic Congress, the European Congress of Small and Medium sized Enterprises, Intel Extreme Masters, Rawa Blues, Tauron New Music, Silesian JazzArt Festival, Mayday, Maj Music Festival, OFF Festival, Tour de Pologne



2. The legalisation of foreigner stay¹

EU citizens (and their family members who are non-EU citizens) are allowed to stay in Poland for 3 months on a valid travel document or another type of ID (family members from outside the EU must have a valid travel document).

An EU citizen is:

- A citizen of an EU member state
- A citizen of the Swiss Confederation
- A citizen of the EFTA (*European Free Trade Association*) which is part of the EEA (European Economic Area)



Remember!

EU and EEA citizens do not need a permit to work in Poland.

You are obliged to register your stay if you are staying in Poland for a period exceeding 3 months.

Registration of stay in Poland

In order to register EU citizen's residence, the following documents should be submitted:

- Fill in the application form for registration of residence of an EU citizen + 3 copies
- Travel document or another document confirming your identity and citizenship (for review) + 2 copies
- A proof that you have enough money to support yourself and your family members (*credit card, declaration on having the funds in a bank or another financial institution or bank statement stamped and signed by a bank employee, issued no earlier than one month before the submission of the residence registration application*)
- A document confirming inclusion in health insurance system or entitlement to use health service provisions on the basis of the regulations on coordination of social security systems or possession of private insurance

Additional documents:

If you are an employee or the self-employed on the territory of the Republic of Poland:

- A written statement of the employer, or of the entity authorised to entrust the European Union citizen with the performance of work, of their intention to entrust them with the performance of work, or a confirmation of the performance of work
- A written statement concerning the entry into the National Court Register or Central Registration and Information on Business or other proof confirming that the EU citizen is a self-employed person in the territory of the Republic of Poland

If you study or participate in professional training:

- An admittance certificate issued by a public or non-public university or a training referral
- A document confirming inclusion in health insurance system or entitlement to use health service provisions on the basis of the regulations on coordination of social security systems or possession of private insurance
- A written declaration on having sufficient funds to be able to support oneself and members of one's family, so as not to become a burden for the social assistance, or a proof of having the above-mentioned funds. Proofs of having the above-mentioned funds may include, in particular: a credit card, declaration on having the funds in a bank or another financial institution, confirmed with a stamp or signature of an authorized employee of this bank or financial institution, issued no earlier than one month before the submission of the residence registration application

If you are married to a Polish citizen:

- A document confirming conclusion of the marriage with a Polish citizen



Remember!

The application form must be filled in Polish. Anyone over 18 years old must submit it in person. It must be submitted the next day after your 3-month stay at the latest.

Where to apply?

At Silesian Voivodship Office Chancellery in Katowice, Jagiellońska 25 St, room no 161, counters 25, 26, 27 and 17, phone numbers 32 20 77 630, 32 20 77 919, 32 20 77 956, 32 20 77 962, 32 20 77 661, 32 20 77 658

Application form is available down below:

<https://www.katowice.uw.gov.pl/download/650>

GDPR information clause:

<https://udsc.gov.pl/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Klauzula-RODO.pdf>

More information on registration procedure:

<https://www.katowice.uw.gov.pl/service/gb/eu-citizens>

Registration of stay and documents for non-EU citizens:

You can stay in Poland with one of the 4 main types of documents:

- visa
- residence card
- valid biometric passport (if you come from a country with no visa requirement)
- valid stamped passport that confirms you applied for a residence permit

In special situations, e.g. when you have applied for refugee status, other types of documents may be required.

Visas

The right to carry out work in the Republic of Poland by a foreigner requires that the foreigner, in addition to obtaining a work permit, must obtain an appropriate visa unless the foreigner stay in Poland is regulated by provisions regarding visa-free travel. Apart from a visa you need to have a valid passport (travel document). You can obtain your visa before departure at the Polish Consulate.

To apply or schedule a visit at the appropriate Consulate, go to the Polish Ministry for Foreign Affairs website:

<https://www.e-konsulat.gov.pl/>

Types of visas:



Schengen visa (C) issued by a Schengen Area country gives you the right to travel through or remain in the Schengen Area for up to 90 days in total within a period of 180 days, counting from first entry.

Schengen Area countries are: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Spain, the Netherlands, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Latvia, Malta, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland (*the last four countries are not members of the EU*).

Countries that are not part of the Schengen Area are: Cyprus, Bulgaria, Ireland, Romania, the UK and Croatia. EU citizens do not need a visa to enter these countries. For non-EU citizens, it depends on their countries' individual regulations.

National visa (D) gives you the right to enter the territory of the Republic of Poland and to stay continuously or for several successive times in this territory for a total duration of more than 90 days during the period of validity of the visa, but not longer than one year.

A D-type national visa also permits to travel in the territory of other Schengen Area Member States for up to 90 days during a 180-day period, during the validity period of the visa.

Airport transit visa (A) gives you the right to pass through one or more airports in the Schengen Area. Citizens of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iraq, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan and Sri Lanka need an airport transit visa if they are travelling from outside the EU and passing through a Schengen country. A-type transit visa only permits to stay in the international transit area of an airport. It does not permit entry in the Schengen Area or leaving the airport's transit area. Citizens of the following countries are exempted from a visa requirement when entering Schengen Area for the periods not exceeding 90 days within 180-day period:

<https://udsc.gov.pl/en/cudzoziemcy/obywatele-panstw-trzecich/chce-przyjechac-do-polski/czy-potrzebuje-wizy/>

More information on visa procedure:

<https://secure.e-konsulat.gov.pl/>

More information on extension of a Schengen or national visa:

<https://www.katowice.uw.gov.pl/service/eb/visas>

Residency permits

A temporary residency permit is granted to a foreigner who is planning to remain in Poland for more than 3 months and has a specified purpose of their stay. The possible reasons are: work, education, graduating from a university, volunteering, internship, scientific research, business activities, family reunification, or other important circumstances which can be proven.

Types of residence cards:

- **Temporary residence permit** (issued for up to 3 years)
- **Temporary residence and work permit** (for up to 3 years)
- **Residence and high-skilled work permit (EU Blue Card)** (for up to 3 years)

After the 3-year period, you can apply for another permit.

- **Permanent residence permit** (issued for an indefinite period, needs to be renewed every 10 years)

Long-term EU-resident permit (issued for an indefinite period, needs to be renewed every 5 years).

Residence card along with a valid passport gives you the right to stay in Poland and cross its borders without a visa.

You can apply for residency permits in the Voivodship Office (Urząd Wojewódzki). You need to attend in person at the office, present the necessary documents and pay an application fee.

Necessary documents to be submitted:



- Present a valid travel document. In particularly justified cases, when a foreigner does not have a valid travel document and has no possibility to obtain it, he may present another document confirming his identity
- Submit a completed application form and attach to the application:
- 3 recent photographs – intact, in colour, measuring 35 x 45 mm, made in the past 6 months, against a light background, having good focus, clearly showing the eyes and face from the top of the head to the top of the shoulders, so that the face occupies 70-80% of the photo; photograph should show the person without a hat and dark glasses, looking straight ahead with eyes open, not covered by hair, with a natural facial expression and mouth closed
- Documents necessary to confirm the data included in the application and circumstances justifying application for temporary residence permit
- Proof of payment of stamp duty



Additional documents:

In the case of applying by a foreigner for a permit for temporary residence and work, a permit for temporary residence for the purpose of work in a profession requiring high qualifications (Blue Card) or a temporary residence permit for the purpose of conducting business activity, if the purpose of the foreigner's stay is to perform work by holding a position in the management board of a limited liability company or a joint stock company that he/she established or whose shares or stock he/she acquired purchased or running a limited partnership or limited-joint stock partnership by a general partner, or acting as a proxy - along with the application form for a temporary residence permit should be attached to Annex No 1 filled out by the entity entrusting work to the foreigner (the employer).

In addition, in the case of applying for a temporary residence permit for the purpose of work in a profession requiring high qualifications a foreigner shall – fill in the application form and annex No 2. While submitting the application foreigner shall also attached annex No 1, filled in by an entity entrusting performance of a paid activity to the foreigner (by foreigner's employer).

What is a BLUE CARD?

The Blue Card applies to high-skilled, highly-qualified employees like architects or lawyers. The list of occupations can be found here:

<https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regprof/index.cfm?action=regprofs>

Every Blue Card owner can apply for temporary stay for the members of their family as part of the family reunification procedure. This gives the owner's spouse open access to the job market without the need for any additional permits, as well as the right to start their own business.

During the first 2 years in Poland as a Blue Card owner you are not allowed to:

- start working for a different employer than the one specified in your permit
- you cannot change the position at which you are employed
- work for a lower salary than the one specified in your permit

If any of those conditions change or you lose your job, you need to inform the Voivodeship Office within 15 working days and apply for a new permit within 3 months. After this period your card will expire. Council Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/PL/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32009L0050>

Application forms can be downloaded below:

Application form

<https://www.katowice.uw.gov.pl/download/638>

Annex 1

<https://www.katowice.uw.gov.pl/download/639>

Annex 2

<https://www.katowice.uw.gov.pl/download/640>

GDPR Information Clause

<https://udsc.gov.pl/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Klauzula-RODO.pdf>

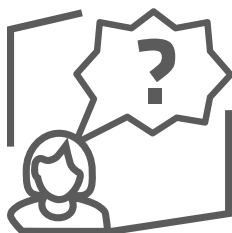
Where do I submit the documents?

Silesian Voivodship Office Chancellery in Katowice, Jagiellońska 25 St, room no 161, counters no 23 and 24

It can be also sent to the following address:

Śląski Urząd Wojewódzki w Katowicach
Wydział Spraw Obywatelskich i Cudzoziemców, Oddział do Spraw Cudzoziemców
ul. Jagiellońska 25, 40-032 Katowice

To get free help filling out the form, visit:



Helpdesk for foreigners from outside the EU, counters 7 and 8 and room no 133 at the Customer Service Office in Katowice, phone numbers 32/606 33 77, 32 207 71 33 or by writing to the following address: fami-punkt@katowice.uw.gov.pl

Advice is provided by the following specialists:

- specialists in the field of legalization of stay in Poland
- psychologist
- lawyer
- cultural assistant
- career counselor
- translator of English, Russian and Ukrainian

Information on the case conducted in the Katowice Branch can be obtained by calling the hotline or by writing an email:



32 606 32 32



foreigncy@katowice.uw.gov.pl

The hotline is open:

Monday to Friday from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

Tuesdays from 7:30 to 18:00

Applicable charges (as of 11 march 2021):

Stamp duty for temporary residence permit – PLN 340,

Stamp duty for temporary residence and work permit – PLN 440,

Stamp duty for temporary residence permit for the purpose of work in a profession requiring high qualifications – PLN 440,

Stamp duty for temporary residence permit for the purpose of mobility – PLN 440,

Stamp duty for temporary residence permit for the purpose of work under the intra-corporate transfer – PLN 440,

Stamp duty for temporary residence permit for the purpose of seasonal work – PLN 170,

The stamp duty can be paid in cash at the cash desk at the City Hall in Katowice or cashlessly (bank transfer) to the mentioned below bank account of City Hall in Katowice:



Bank PKO BP S.A.

52 1020 2313 2672 0211 1111 1111

According to the Art. 6 par. 1 point 3 of the Act of November 16, 2006 on stamp duty, proof of payment for the permit should be attached to the application when submitting the application.

A person applying for a permanent residence permit, possessing a valid Polish Card, is exempt from stamp duty.

Fee for issuing a residence card - 50 PLN.

The fee can be paid in cash at the cash desk at the Silesian Provincial Office in Katowice or cashlessly (bank transfer) to the mentioned below bank account of the Silesian Provincial Office:

National Bank of Poland District Branch in Katowice

67 1010 1212 0053 4022 3100 0000

Note – The applicant is obliged to provide proof of payment of stamp duty.



3. PESEL²

PESEL is an individual, unique 11-digit identification number. Migrants are quite often asked for their PESEL in Poland. Although in most cases it is not legally required, having it makes things a lot easier. To get your PESEL number, you need to have a registered address. You can apply for both at the same time.

How to get a PESEL?

- Fill in the form: <http://www.gov.pl/attachment/5681d5cb-3ce9-4ca0-a325-1db67a7f3c24>
- Attach: a certified true photocopy of your passport
- Photocopy of work contract in Poland



Remember!

Provide the actual legal base in the application, which entails the obligation of holding a PESEL Number. If any agency for example ZUS (Social Security Agency) or tax Office requires the PESEL Number – it should also provide you with the legal base of such a requirement.

If there are any deficiencies in the application – you will be informed that they need to be supplemented. The office will not be able to review your application, if the said application fails to meet official requirements.

You can apply for a PESEL when you're applying for registered residence.

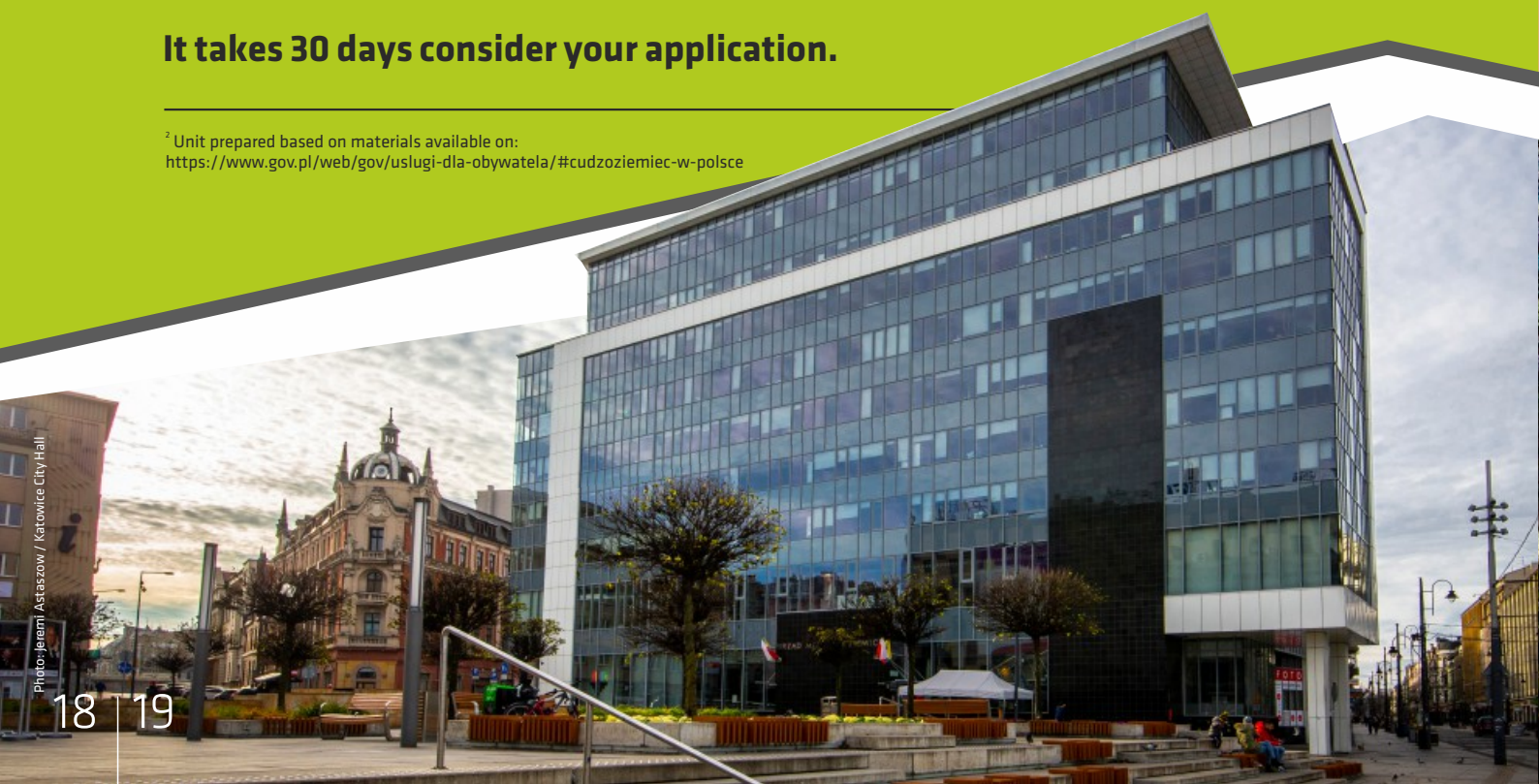
Where to apply?

You can submit the documents in person or send to:

Katowice City Hall Chancellery
Rynek 1, 40-003 Katowice

It takes 30 days consider your application.

² Unit prepared based on materials available on:
<https://www.gov.pl/web/gov/uslugi-dla-obywatela/#cudzoziemiec-w-polsce>



4. Work³

There are 3 main types of contracts in Poland:

- **Umowa o pracę** – (*regular employment contract*) – regulated by Kodeks Pracy (*Labour Code*). It can be fixed-time or temporary, e.g. for a trial period. From the employee's point of view an indefinite contract is the best and most secure form of employment. The employee has the right to paid holidays and sick leaves.
- **Umowa zlecenia** – (*commission contract*) – regulated by Kodeks Cywilny (*Civil Code*). The employee has fewer rights (no paid holiday or sick leave). It is usually a fixed-term contract. In special cases it can also be indefinite. Working under umowa zlecenia does count as years of service.



Remember!

This form of employment above involves a health insurance contribution.

- **Umowa o dzieło** – (*specific-task contract*) – regulated by Kodeks Cywilny (*Civil Code*). This is a contract to perform a specified task over a particular period of time. Working under umowa o dzieło does not count as years of service. Health insurance contributions are not compulsory, so it DOES NOT provide health insurance.

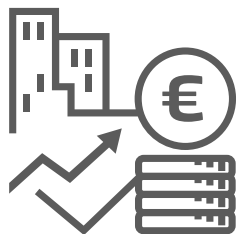
Polish Labour Code sets out the rights and duties of employees and employers, the entire Labour Code is available under link below:

https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=45181

³Unit prepared based on materials available on: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_lang=en&p_isn=45181



5. Job opportunities



Crucial economic advantage of Katowice is the diversified economic structure of the city represented by such industries as: culture, education, medicine, business services, commerce, banking, energy, construction, pharmacy, food industry, automotive industry, engineering design, transport and logistics, machine industry, mining and metallurgy.

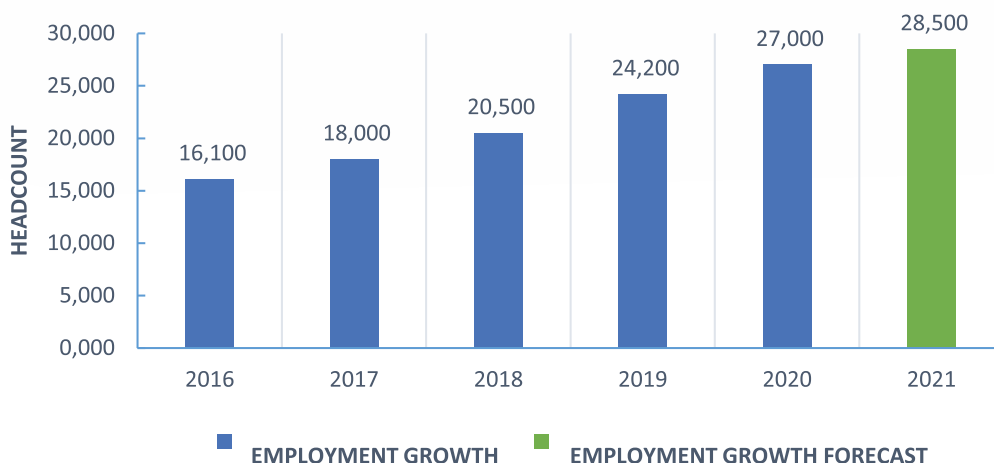
Nevertheless, in terms of the number of business entities, the MSME sector plays the dominant role in Katowice, which constitutes about 99% of the city's business entities (49,860 national economic entities, *CSO of Poland 2021*) and creates significant potential job opportunities. MSME are mainly represented in industries related to trade, education, construction, industrial processing, professional, scientific and technical activities.

Katowice and Metropolis GZM are one of the five most developed centers of business services in Poland:

- 7.8% of employment in the sector nationally
- 114 BPO, SSC/GBS, IT and R&D centers with 27,000 people employed
- 68% employment growth in business services sector (over the last 4 years) with over 10,900 new jobs, created mainly in Katowice
- investors from 19 different countries located business services centers in Katowice (from i.a. the USA, United Kingdom and France together accounting for 47.1% of all centers)
- 43% of employees provide IT services

It should be said that business tourism is dynamically developing and becomes one of the significant sectors in the city.

CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT IN BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR IN KATOWICE AND METROPOLIS GZM



Source: "Business Services Sector in Katowice 2020", ABSL

6. Healthcare⁴



There are two types of healthcare in Poland: public (free of charge) and private (then you must pay for healthcare services). If you want to use healthcare services for free, you must be insured in the National Health Fund (NHF). Thanks to the NHF insurance, you can also use the services of private medical facilities, but such facility must have a contract with the National Health Fund – more information on the NHF is available at: <https://www.nfz.gov.pl/>

Who can get healthcare insurance?

- All persons employed in Poland, including foreigners, are subject to compulsory health insurance. This means that a contribution to the National Health Fund is paid from their salary each month (usually done by the employer)
- After proper registration with the National Health Fund, the health benefits to which the insured person is entitled may also be used by members of their immediate family (spouses and children, grandparents and parents remaining in the same household with the insured person), if they are not insured on a different basis
- Children under 18 (*this includes the employee's children, the children of their spouse, adopted children, grandchildren and foster children*). Children under 26 if they continue their education (*students over 26 need to inform their school and the school is required to cover their health insurance*). Children with severe disabilities can be registered for insurance regardless of their age
- The employee's parents and grandparents if they live in the same household

⁴Unit prepared based on materials available on: <https://www.gov.pl/web/zdrowie>



Vaccination and healthy children protection

In Poland it is mandatory that each child receives vaccinations. Whether the child is insured or not, the vaccines are free of charge. To full this obligation and protect your child from infectious diseases you need to:

- have your child's vaccination certificate from the country of origin
- visit your GP and ask for an individual vaccination plan
- show up for vaccinations according to the plan
- when a child is 2, 4, 6, 10, 14 and 18 years old, the doctor performs a general health check-up

If a person (including a foreigner) **is not insured with the National Health Fund**, he/she can use healthcare, but only **for a fee**. If the person has an insurance policy with a private company, the insurance company pays for the healthcare. In many private medical facilities, you can buy the so-called subscription, i.e., a specific amount is paid to the facility every month for which a package of specific medical services is paid. Prices vary depending on the facility as well as the services that can be purchased. Detailed information is available from the individual private insurance companies.

As a rule, foreigners staying in Poland on the basis of a visa cannot use the public health service in Poland free of charge.



7. Education⁵

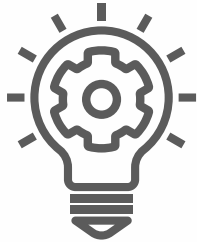


In accordance with *ustawa z 14 grudnia 2016 – Prawo oświatowe* (Act of 14 December 2016, The Law on School Education), the school education system includes, in particular, the following preschool institutions and schools:

- **nursery schools** (*przedszkole*) and other preschool education settings: preschool education centers (*punkt przedszkolny*) and preschool education units (*zespół wychowania przedszkolnego*), referred to as small nursery schools
- **primary schools** (*szkoła podstawowa*)
- **post-primary schools** (in the new post-reform school system; schools above the lower secondary level in the pre-reform system)
- **art schools**

Higher education institutions form a separate higher education system. Although private education is also available.

Preschool education is offered to children at the age of 3 and above. All 6-year old children are required to attend a nursery school (*przedszkole*) or a preschool class (*oddział przedszkolny*) in a primary school as School Education Act introduced a one-year compulsory preschool preparation. This requirement applies to 6-year-olds.



Remember!

Education in Poland is free of charge. Although private education is also available.

⁵ Unit prepared based on materials available on:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/edukacja-i-nauka>; <https://international.edu.pl/>

https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/content/organisation-education-system-and-its-structure-56_en



Katowice is a nationally important academic center where a wide educational offer is available. There are also options to choose an international schools in Katowice.

In Katowice operates Complex of Silesian International Schools which has very developed structure and provides their students the highest level of education. Complex of Silesian International Schools delivers a full range of programmes, in accordance with two prestigious, world-wide programmes: Cambridge International Examinations Programme and International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

Full range of programmes:

- Pre-school - the International Preschool
- Cambridge Primary
- Cambridge Checkpoint Programme (CP)
- International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)
- IB Diploma Programme

After graduation from Secondary Schools, the alumni who are interested in International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme are welcome to study in international high school – Prywatne Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. M. Wańkowicza. International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme has been offered together with the CIE programme since 2007.

Moreover Katowice has set long-term objectives for public education development, which are included in the strategic document "Education Policy of the City of Katowice 2022". The city is constantly developing and expanding its education policy in line with the needs of the inhabitants, which is confirmed by the title Local Government Leader of Education received every year for several years. Furthermore, the Mayor of Katowice, Marcin Krupa, was awarded the Patron of Knowledge title.

The interest in Katowice among foreigners is constantly growing. To meet the needs of newcomers city of Katowice provides for the children and youth coming from abroad additional compensatory classes at schools in order to make up the program differences between Polish and foreign education system. Polish language classes are also available for pupil who have difficulties in using it. All the classes mentioned above are complementary.



8. Residential properties



There is a wide range of properties for rent or sale in Katowice. You can do it either directly from the person who rents or sales or from the real estate company.

In case of renting the basic price mentioned in the ad is often the sum you need to pay to the flat owner and does not include rent and utilities (gas, water, electricity). Apart from all that, many landlords also require a deposit.

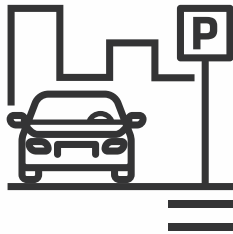
Before signing a contract with a real estate company, ask who covers the cost of looking for a flat.

In most cases it is the landlord, but some companies may charge you as well. When you find a flat, you should sign a rent agreement.

Residential properties prices in Katowice are among the lowest from the largest cities in the Poland.



9. Car use in Poland⁶



Driving licence

There are different driving licence categories in Poland. The most popular is:

- Category B which allows you to drive a passenger car no heavier than 3,5 tons, a passenger car with a light trailer, a tractor, and a motorcycle up to 11 kilowatts

Other categories include:

- Category A (*motorcycle*)
- Category A2 (*motorcycle up to 35 kilowatts, three-wheeled motorcycle up to 15 kilowatts*)
- Category A1, B1, C (*large vehicle heavier than 3,5 tons which isn't a bus*)
- Category C1, D (*bus*)

Do I need to get a Polish driving licence?

If you have a driving licence issued in an EU member state or a non-EU country which signed the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic (*listed here: zielonalinia.gov.pl/upload/powroty/po-konwencja-wiedenska.pdf*) you DO NOT need to have a Polish driving licence. If not, you are obliged to get an international driving licence and pass the theoretical part of the Polish driving test (*it is possible to take the test in another language*).

Car insurance

Each car owner in Poland is obliged to have OC (civil liability) insurance. The prices vary depending on the insurance company.

Car equipment

Each car needs to have a first-aid kit, a fire extinguisher (*which should undergo a technical check-up once a year*) and a warning triangle.





Important addresses

Śląski Urząd Wojewódzki w Katowicach
(Silesian Voivodeship Office in Katowice)
Wydział Spraw Obywatelskich i Cudzoziemców,
Oddział do Spraw Cudzoziemców
ul. Jagiellońska 25
40-032 Katowice
<https://www.katowice.uw.gov.pl/services/gb>

Information Point for Foreigners
ul. Młyńska 5
40-098 Katowice
<https://punktidc.pl/>

Urząd Miasta Katowice
(Katowice City Hall)
ul. Młyńska 4
40-098 Katowice
<https://www.katowice.eu/en/en>

Ośrodek Wsparcia Cudzoziemców
(Immigrant Support Center)
ul. Reymonta 22
40-029 Katowice
<http://www.owc.org.pl/>





Important emergency telephone numbers:

Emergency – **112**

Police – **997**

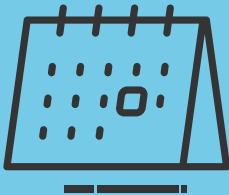
Ambulance – **999**

Fire Service – **998**

Municipal Police – **986**

Gas Emergency Service – **992**

Electricity Emergency Service – **991**



Important dates and holidays:

1 January

– New Year, public holiday, non-working day

6 January

– Trzech Króli (*Epiphany*), non-working day

The last Sunday of March

– clocks go forward to European Summer Time

March/April

– Easter, moveable feast, Easter Monday is a non-working day

May/June (Thursday),

60 days after Easter

– Corpus Christi (*Boże Ciało*), moveable feast, non-working day

1 May

– Święto Pracy (*Labour Day*), public holiday, non-working day

3 May

– Święto Konstytucji 3 Maja (*Constitution Day*), public holiday, non-working day

26 May

– Mother's Day, working day

23 June

– Father's Day, working day

15 August

– Wniebowzięcie Najświętszej Maryi Panny (*Assumption of Mary*), non-working day

1 September

– beginning of the school year, working day

The last Sunday of October

– clocks go back to European Daylight Saving Time

1 November

– Wszystkich Świętych (*All Saints' Day*), non-working day

11 November

– Independence Day, public holiday, non-working day

6 December

– Mikołajki (*Saint Nicholas Day*), working day

24 December

– Christmas Eve, working day

25 and 26 December

– Christmas, non-working days

**We are very happy
you chose Katowice!**

**We hope our guide will help you
to make yourself comfortable
in our city.**

See you there!

Disclaimer

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The Investors Assistance Department (IAD) is a dedicated structure within Katowice City Hall with over a dozen of staff specialists. The mission of IAD is to promote and support the development of domestic and foreign investment, and also the local economy. The IAD focuses on both attracting the new investment to Katowice in order to maintain and create a new employment and supporting current investors. Moreover, the IAD concentrates on the creation of favorable ecosystem for start-ups and adequate environment for sector of SME.



GET IN TOUCH WITH US FOR MORE INFORMATION

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40-003 Katowice, Rynek 1

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Phone: +48 (32) 259 38 26
oi@katowice.eu
invest.katowice.eu

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/invest-in-katowice>

