

# CHANGES OF THE NEEDS OF AN AGEING SOCIETY. A POLISH PERSPECTIVE

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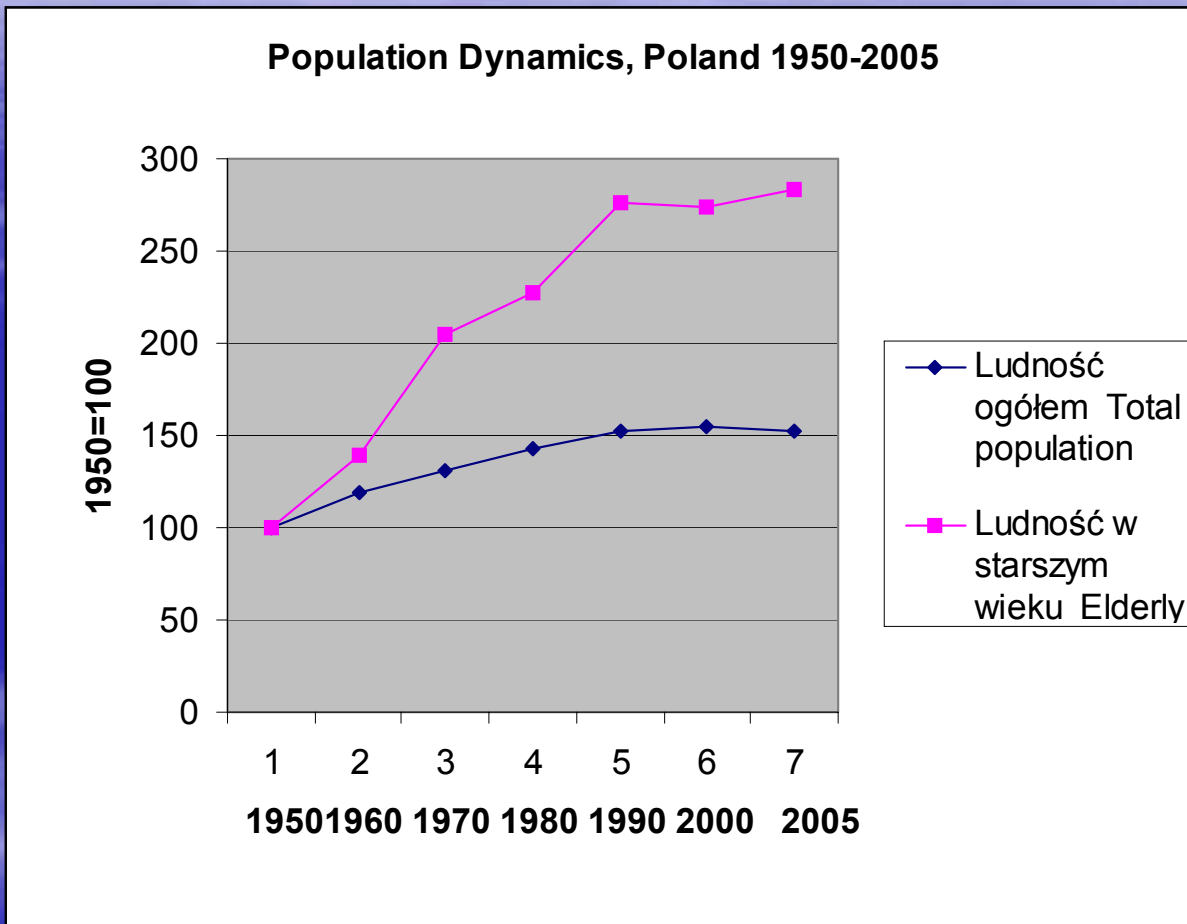
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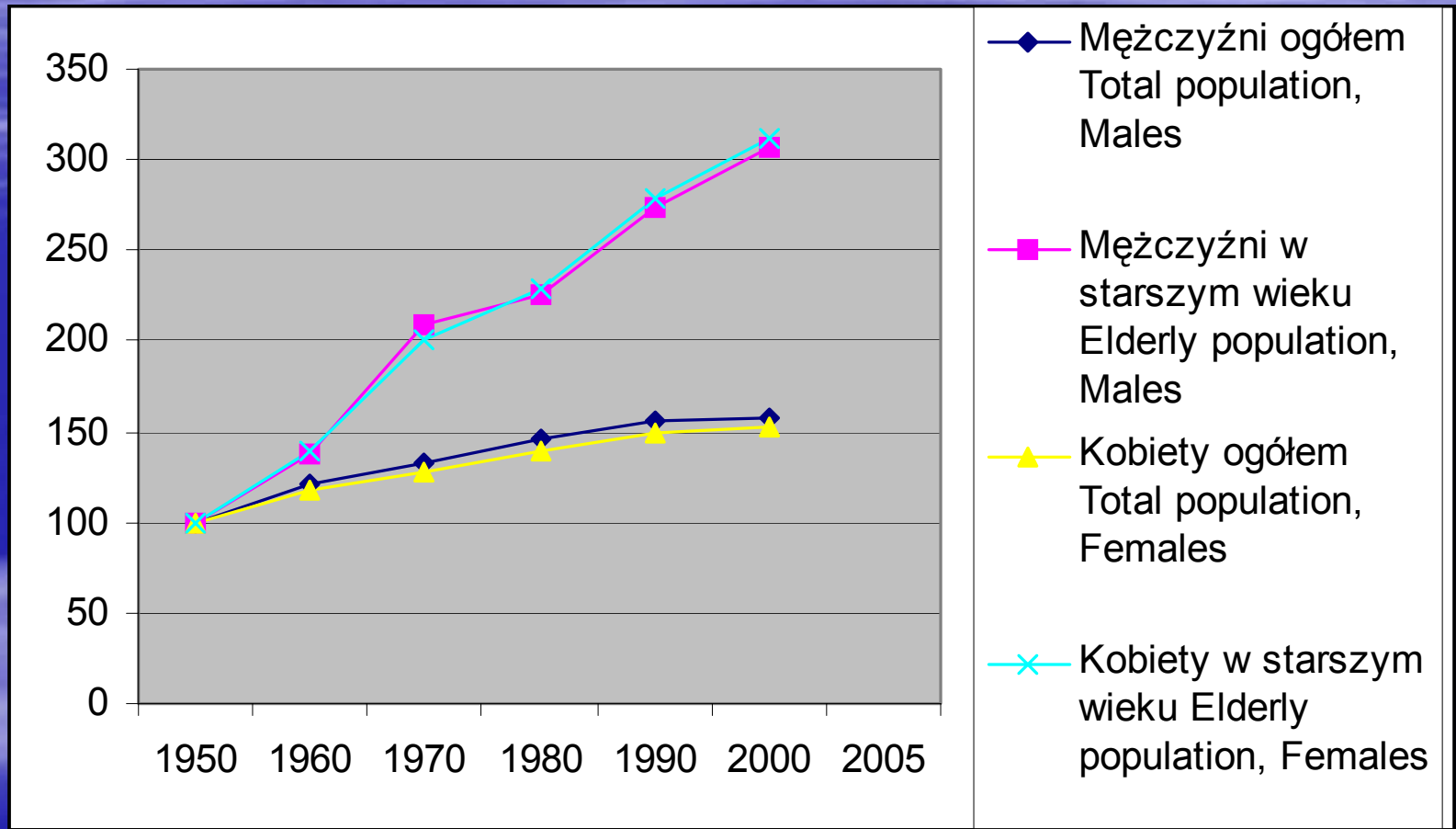
# Demographic change and ageing processes in Poland

- Poland shows an ageing of the population as a result of the increased longevity accompanied by decreased fertility.
- Ageing process is significant and will be accelerating in the coming decades.
- Emergent consequences of that process, both social and economic evoke not only growing demand for social and health cares, and education, but they also give older persons new position in family life and broader social structures.

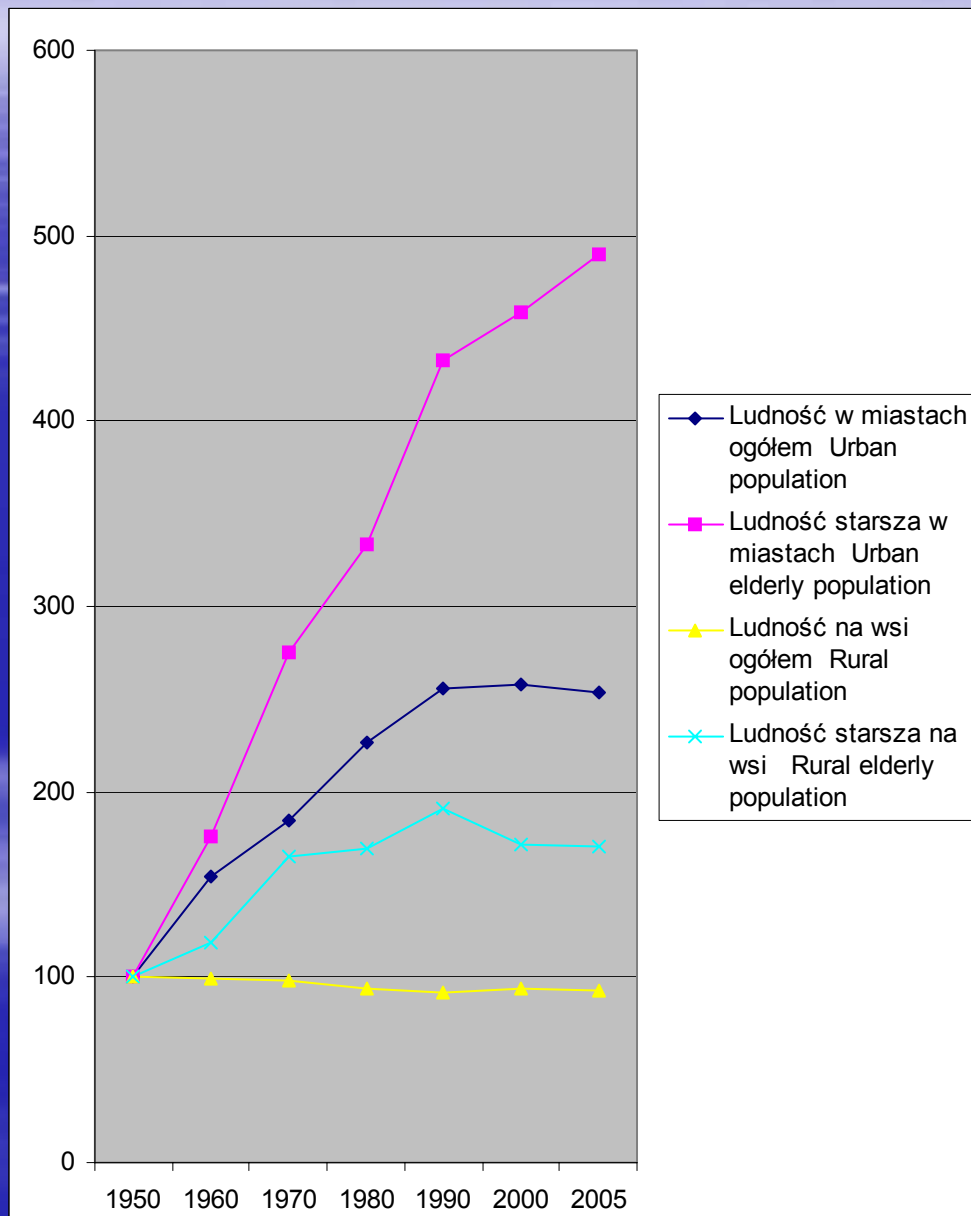
# Evolution of population in Poland



# Population structure by sex, Poland, 1950-2005



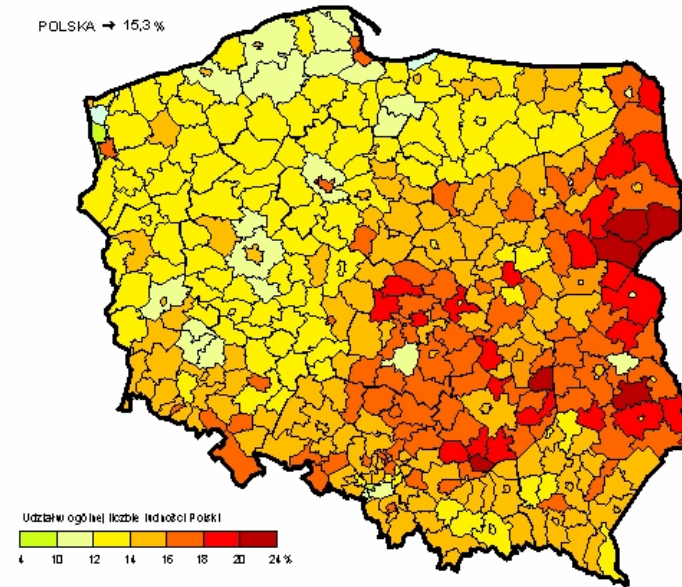
# Poland, 1950-2005



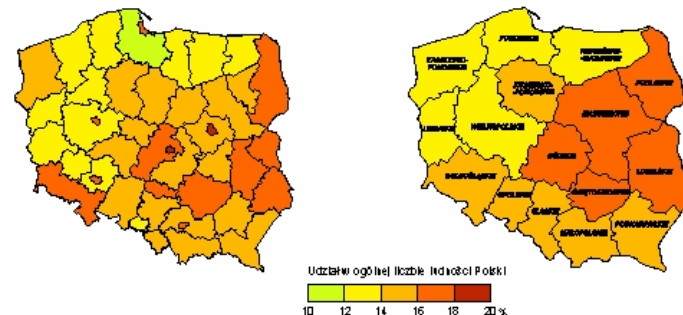
# ELDERLY POPULATION IN POLAND, 2004 (NUTS 4, 3, 2)

Ryc. 15 LUDNOŚĆ W WIEKU POPRODUKCYJNYM WEDŁUG POWIATÓW W 2004 R.

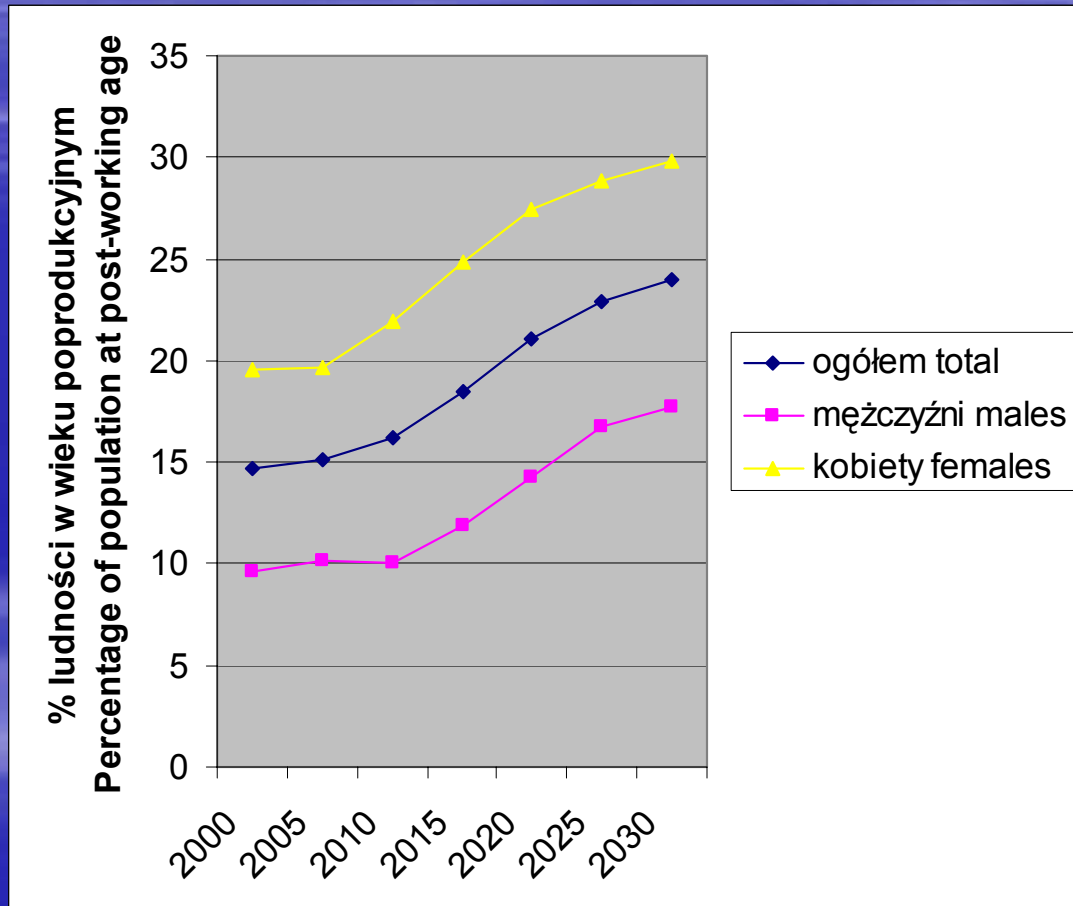
POLSKA → 15,3 %



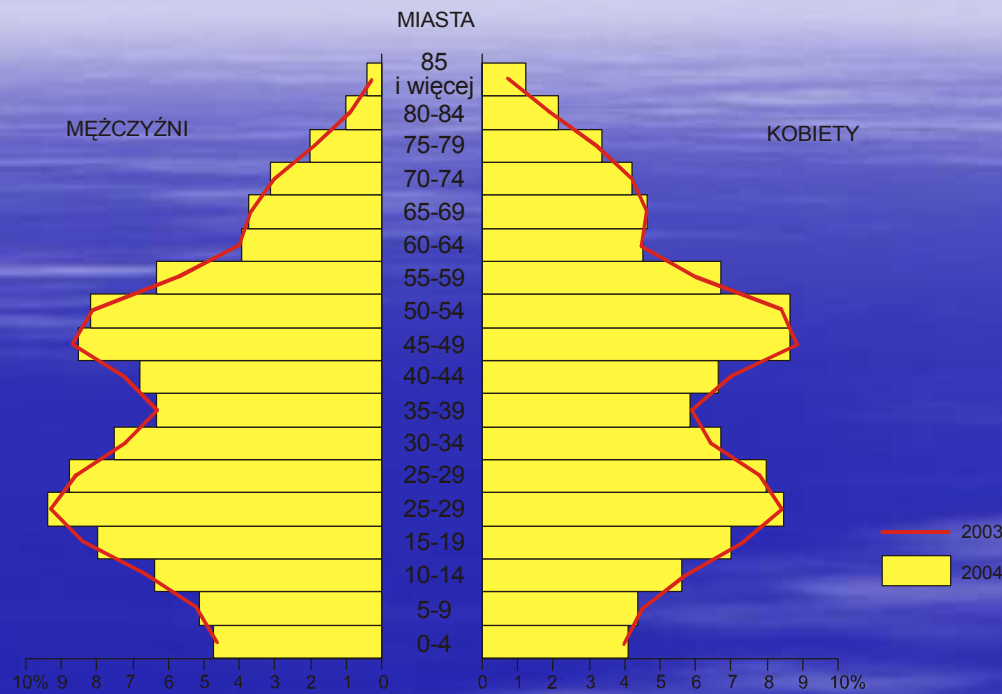
LUDNOŚĆ W WIEKU POPRODUKCYJNYM WEDŁUG PODREGIONÓW I WOJEWÓDZTŹ W 2004 R.



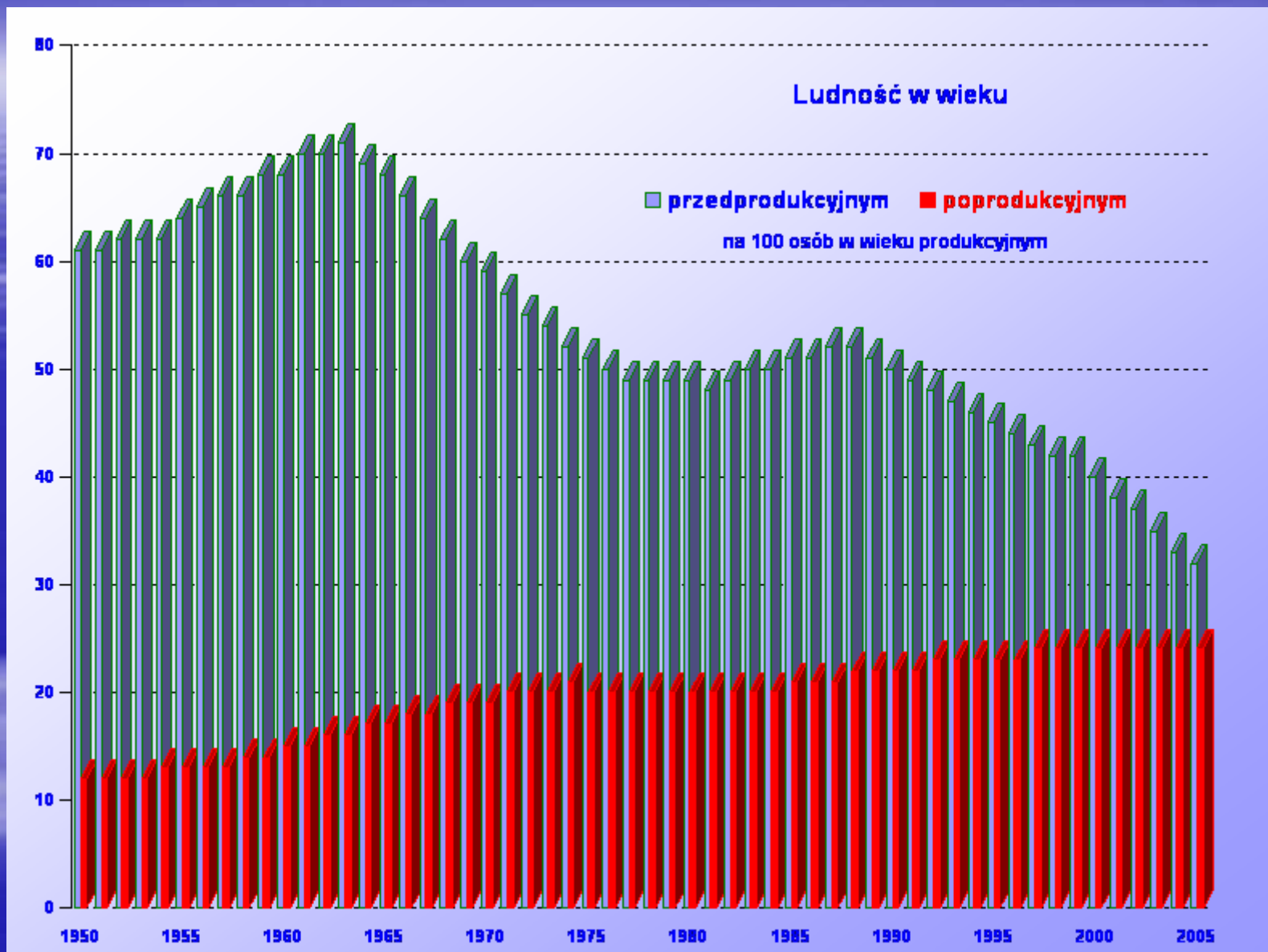
# Elderly population in Poland will almost have doubled in 2050 (from 16.6% in 2000 to 35.6% in 2050)



Ryc. 12 STRUKTURA LUDNOŚCI MIEJSKIEJ I WIEJSKIEJ WEDŁUG PŁCI I WIEKU W 2004 R.



# Dependency ratios, Poland, 1950-2005,



## Implications of the demographic change

The projected considerable increase in the percentage of old people will dramatically affect the demographic dependency ratio over the 50-year horizon.

The threefold increase of this ratio is a significant indication that the future will see the problem of intergenerational equity.

## Conditions and needs of the ageing Polish society

- a shortage of forms of care, both in terms of services provided in places of residence and in establishments like hospitals, senior's houses and within palliative care,
- the need for professionalism of social workers and their insufficient number considering current and future needs,
- education is becoming an indispensable condition for intergenerational integration because the existent discrepancies between old and young people's level of education often create a barrier that isolates seniors from their children and grandchildren

# Recommendations of the Government Population Council in Poland

- improving health protection and access to medical services as well as creating a system of support in organizing independent life of the elderly
- ensuring conditions for maintaining economic independence of the elderly persons
- creating a system which will favor adjustments of living conditions to senior's financial possibilities and needs

- maintaining social activity of the elderly through lifelong education, health education and voluntary work
- promoting positive attitudes towards old age and the elderly; acting towards inter- and intra-generational integration,
  - creating a system of preparation for old age in terms of economic well-being, health, education, and keeping active,
- leading a coherent elderly-oriented old age policy