

Still partitioned?

DURING THE PARTITIONS OF POLAND, POLISH TERRITORY AND SOCIETY WERE DIVIDED INTO THREE DIFFERENT SPHERES OF INFLUENCE. THIS RESULTED IN DRASIC DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE DIVIDED POLES. EVEN THOUGH THE PARTITIONS ENDED OVER A CENTURY AGO, TO THIS DAY WE CAN SEE THE INFLUENCE THEY STILL HAVE ON MODERN SOCIETY.

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION EMPLOYED IN INDUSTRY IN 2023

Prussian partition

"Recovered Territories"

Austrian partition

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE IN 2023

Prussian partition

Percent [%]

41
31
21
11
1

CULTURE

THE AUSTRIAN PARTITION, WHILE BEING THE POOREST OF THE THREE, WAS CHARACTERIZED BY A RELATIVE FREEDOM OF CULTURE. THIS ALLOWED THE PUBLICATION OF IMPORTANT CULTURAL WORKS SUCH AS "ROTA" OR "PIEŃ O ZIEMI NASZEJ". AS A RESULT, THE FORMER AUSTRIAN LANDS HAVE A STRONG HUMANISTIC TRADITION, WHICH IS REFLECTED IN THE HIGHER RESULTS OF THE Matura EXAM IN POLISH, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS OF THE AUSTRIAN PARTITION.

PERCENTAGE RESULT OF THE WINNING CANDIDATE IN THE 2025 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WON BY CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE

PERCENTAGE RESULT OF THE WINNING CANDIDATE IN THE 2005 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WON BY CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE

Percent [%]

100
75
50
25
0

The Economy

The main difference between the spheres of influence was the level of economic development. The Prussian part of Poland was heavily industrialized according to the model of the Prussian economy. The Prussian government made huge investments in heavy industry and mining. Although the Russian partition became more industrialized than the Austrian one, both remained predominantly agrarian economies, continuing the long-standing Polish tradition of being the "granary of Europe". These differences were only reinforced by later history, in which the German Reich invested mainly in the lands it considered German. The results are still clearly visible: the percentage of people working in agriculture is significantly higher in the Russian and Austrian partitions, while employment in industry remains highest in the former German sphere of influence.

RESULTS FROM Matura EXAM IN POLISH 2022

Percent [%]

80
70
60
50
40
30

The politics

All three parts of partitioned Poland were characterized by different types of governance. Prussia introduced a heavily bureaucratic but, in a way, fair system, which encouraged participation in local politics and created trust in institutions. At the same time, Russia ruled with an iron fist, fostering distrust in the state and its institutions. Combined with the economic differences, this factor cemented the divide in Polish politics. Both maps show the entrenchedness of this difference: while the former Russian partition votes overwhelmingly for the conservative option, the Prussian one chooses a more left-leaning party.

PERCENTAGE OF CATHOLICS AMONG POPULATION IN 2021

Percent [%]

100
75
50
25
0

RELIGION

CATHOLICISM HAS ALWAYS PLAYED A HUGE ROLE IN POLISH HISTORY, SINCE THE PARTITIONS BEING INSEPARABLY LINKED WITH PATRIOTISM. DURING THAT PERIOD, THE CHURCH BECAME A BASTION OF POLISH IDENTITY, ONE OF THE MAIN WAYS POLES COULD RESIST RUSSIFICATION AND GERMANIZATION. THE MAP SHOWS THE PERSISTENCE AND UNITY OF BELIEF AMONG POLES, WHICH REMAINS ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN EUROPE. THE EXCEPTION IS THE CHYRÓW DISTRICT (NE), WHICH, DUE TO ITS LARGE BELARUSIAN MINORITY, IS MAINLY ORTHODOX — SOMETHING THAT IS ALSO VISIBLE ON THE ELECTION MAP.

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GUS

Our data source was Bank of statistical data, hosted by GUS

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Dane dotyczące granicy zaborów zostały wytyczone ręcznie przy pomocy programu qgis na podstawie mapy oraz wiedzy własnej:
https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ziemie_Rzeczypospolitej_pod_zaborami

Wyniki wyborów prezydenckich:

https://prezydent2025.pkw.gov.pl/prezydent2025/pl/dane_w_arkuszach

Wyniki matur:

<https://mapa.wyniki.edu.pl/MapaEgzaminow>

Dane dotyczące pracy:

<https://bdl.stat.gov.pl/bdl/dane/podgrup/wymiary>

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Dane dotyczące wiary:

<https://stat.gov.pl/spisy-powszechne/nsp-2021/nsp-2021-wyniki-ostateczne/tablice-z-ostatecznymi-danymi-w-zakresie-przynaleznosci-narodowo-etnicznej-jezyka-uzywanego-w-domu-oraz-przynaleznosci-do-wyznania-religijnego,10,1.html>

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