The characteristics of the space and number structure of enterprises in particular provinces of Poland

Характеристики пространства и номера структура предприятий в отдельных провинциях Польши

Summary
The article presents the characteristics of the space and number structure of active enterprises conducting business activities according to the Polish Classification of Activities 2007 in the territory of Poland, divided into provinces. The research covered all 16 Polish regions (NTS-2) as of 31st December 2014. The conducted analysis shows that the number of enterprises in particular regions differ significantly, adequately to their size and population density. In spite of sector differences, all provinces are dominated by enterprises from G and F sections. The unquestionable leader in the number of business entities in Mazowieckie province, leaving all other provinces far behind in all types of enterprises.

Keywords: enterprise, province, sections of the Polish Classification of Activities, space, number and branch structure.

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Резюме
В статье представлены характеристики пространственная и количественная структура действующих предприятий ведения предпринимательской деятельности в соответствии с польской классификации видов деятельности 2007 на территории Польши, разделенной на провинции. Исследование охватывало все 16 польских регионов (HTC-2) по состоянию на 31 декабря 2014 года. Проведенный анализ показывает, что число предприятий в разных регионах значительно, адекватно их размерам и плотность населения. Несмотря на отраслевые азимуты, во всех провинциях доминируют предприятия из разделов G и F. Бесспорный лидер в области бизнеса в Мазовецкой провинции, оставив все остальные провинции далеко позади всех типов предприятий.

Ключевые слова: предприятие, провинция, секции польской классификации видов деятельности, пространство, число и структура филиала.
Introduction

An enterprise in free market countries is in the center of economic science interest. Each company plays an important role in development processes in all levels: local, regional, national and finally global. Obviously, the size of a business entity, defined by the number of employees, the level of income or the balance sheet total, its scope of influence, cooperation ties, they all determine the scale of the above processes. There are thus large enterprises, with international or national corporation structure, as well as the sector of small and medium-sized enterprises, which includes micro-enterprises. They represent different sectors, their numbers in particular economy sectors of a particular municipality, region or country also differ.

This article aims at presenting the number and space and sector structure of enterprises in Polish provinces. The author presents the number of active business enterprises divided into sections of Polish Classification of Activities 2007 in all 16 regions (NTS-2) of the country. The analysis uses the data for 2012 obtained from Central Statistical Office. The paper contains a detailed graphical presentation of the number structure of all sections of the Polish Classification of Activities 2007 in particular regions, however, due to the limitations of the article, the descriptions to the graphs focus only on dominant and marginal sectors (taking into account only the numbers of enterprises in a given section).

Table 1 presents the number of enterprises in particular provinces of Poland divided into sections of the Polish Classification of Activities – as surveyed in 2014.

As we can see from the data in the table, Section G (Wholesale and retail trade; car repair) is the most popular form of activity in every province of Poland. It is followed by Section F (Construction) in all regions and then by Section H (Transport and warehouse management). Section L (Activity related to real estate market services) is also an area of economic activity popular in all regions.
Dariusz Reśko, The Characteristics of the Space and Number Structure of Enterprises in Particular...

### Tab. 1. The Number of Companies in Particular Provinces of Poland According to the Polish Classification of Activities Sections – in 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section (NTS-2)</th>
<th>Dolnośląskie</th>
<th>Kujawsko-Pomorskie</th>
<th>Łódzkie</th>
<th>Lubelskie</th>
<th>Lubuskie</th>
<th>Małopolskie</th>
<th>Mazowieckie</th>
<th>Opolskie</th>
<th>Podkarpackie</th>
<th>Podlaskie</th>
<th>Pomeranian</th>
<th>Śląskie</th>
<th>Świętokrzyskie</th>
<th>Warmińsko-Mazurskie</th>
<th>Wielkopolskie</th>
<th>Zachodniopomorskie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section A</strong> (Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry and Fishery)</td>
<td>6344</td>
<td>5158</td>
<td>4391</td>
<td>3707</td>
<td>4738</td>
<td>6150</td>
<td>12294</td>
<td>3796</td>
<td>3415</td>
<td>3686</td>
<td>5334</td>
<td>5198</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>5268</td>
<td>13905</td>
<td>6091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section B</strong> (Mining and excavating)</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>787</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section C</strong> (Industrial processing)</td>
<td>25686</td>
<td>17230</td>
<td>13351</td>
<td>8453</td>
<td>28373</td>
<td>33901</td>
<td>51178</td>
<td>8549</td>
<td>14963</td>
<td>7895</td>
<td>28511</td>
<td>42780</td>
<td>9893</td>
<td>9698</td>
<td>37926</td>
<td>17110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section D</strong> (Generating and supplying electric power, gas, water steam, hot water and air for air-conditioning systems)</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>341</td>
<td>1431</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section E</strong> (Water supply: management of waste and refuse and reclaiming activities)</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>735</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>1074</td>
<td>2122</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>1725</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>1412</td>
<td>612</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Section F</strong> (Construction)</td>
<td>39787</td>
<td>22108</td>
<td>19663</td>
<td>13207</td>
<td>24354</td>
<td>46148</td>
<td>70725</td>
<td>13267</td>
<td>19352</td>
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<td>33166</td>
<td>51874</td>
<td>14375</td>
<td>13848</td>
<td>49874</td>
<td>27985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Section G</strong> (Wholesale and retail trade; vehicle repair)</td>
<td>84070</td>
<td>51609</td>
<td>49152</td>
<td>28897</td>
<td>68481</td>
<td>89282</td>
<td>187125</td>
<td>25148</td>
<td>43884</td>
<td>25417</td>
<td>59933</td>
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<td>35079</td>
<td>27756</td>
<td>104550</td>
<td>52562</td>
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<td><strong>Section H</strong> (Transport and warehousing management)</td>
<td>19457</td>
<td>12596</td>
<td>11387</td>
<td>7202</td>
<td>14588</td>
<td>22374</td>
<td>45375</td>
<td>4963</td>
<td>10396</td>
<td>6867</td>
<td>17290</td>
<td>29362</td>
<td>7108</td>
<td>7037</td>
<td>22978</td>
<td>14106</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Section I</strong> (Activity connected with accommodation and gastronomy services)</td>
<td>10230</td>
<td>4575</td>
<td>4412</td>
<td>3191</td>
<td>5813</td>
<td>13204</td>
<td>17258</td>
<td>2978</td>
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<td>2159</td>
<td>13362</td>
<td>14767</td>
<td>2876</td>
<td>3417</td>
<td>9201</td>
<td>12885</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Section J</strong> (Information and communication)</td>
<td>8848</td>
<td>3834</td>
<td>3202</td>
<td>1866</td>
<td>5391</td>
<td>9632</td>
<td>33054</td>
<td>1806</td>
<td>3365</td>
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<td>6649</td>
<td>11222</td>
<td>1884</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>9775</td>
<td>4104</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section K</td>
<td>11151</td>
<td>6664</td>
<td>5313</td>
<td>3179</td>
<td>7507</td>
<td>10127</td>
<td>23707</td>
<td>3246</td>
<td>4228</td>
<td>3144</td>
<td>8868</td>
<td>16353</td>
<td>3209</td>
<td>3705</td>
<td>11730</td>
<td>6512</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section L (Activity related to real estate market services)</td>
<td>36516</td>
<td>8269</td>
<td>4845</td>
<td>10122</td>
<td>8348</td>
<td>12422</td>
<td>29374</td>
<td>8053</td>
<td>4066</td>
<td>2610</td>
<td>18657</td>
<td>23758</td>
<td>3012</td>
<td>10658</td>
<td>14615</td>
<td>15259</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity)</td>
<td>30270</td>
<td>13730</td>
<td>12137</td>
<td>7022</td>
<td>18499</td>
<td>30468</td>
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<td>7763</td>
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<td>7515</td>
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<td>34963</td>
<td>16109</td>
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<td>Section N (Activity in administration and supporting services)</td>
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<td>4763</td>
<td>3333</td>
<td>2403</td>
<td>5218</td>
<td>8991</td>
<td>23259</td>
<td>2305</td>
<td>2665</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>6316</td>
<td>11253</td>
<td>1848</td>
<td>2817</td>
<td>10303</td>
<td>6258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section O (Public administration and national defense; compulsory social security)</td>
<td>1515</td>
<td>1452</td>
<td>2469</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>2150</td>
<td>2108</td>
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<td>1928</td>
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<td>1119</td>
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<td>Section P (Education)</td>
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<td>6792</td>
<td>6892</td>
<td>3160</td>
<td>8357</td>
<td>12642</td>
<td>24314</td>
<td>3378</td>
<td>6614</td>
<td>3536</td>
<td>8793</td>
<td>15804</td>
<td>3953</td>
<td>4591</td>
<td>13348</td>
<td>6453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section Q (Healthcare and social care)</td>
<td>16092</td>
<td>12325</td>
<td>9734</td>
<td>5483</td>
<td>11870</td>
<td>17560</td>
<td>30298</td>
<td>4247</td>
<td>8524</td>
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<td>12896</td>
<td>21942</td>
<td>5100</td>
<td>7933</td>
<td>19859</td>
<td>13242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section R (Activity related to culture, entertainment and recreation)</td>
<td>5876</td>
<td>3557</td>
<td>3144</td>
<td>1829</td>
<td>4002</td>
<td>6492</td>
<td>10701</td>
<td>1873</td>
<td>3387</td>
<td>1730</td>
<td>4371</td>
<td>7933</td>
<td>1644</td>
<td>2326</td>
<td>6284</td>
<td>3715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs)</td>
<td>20253</td>
<td>11995</td>
<td>11563</td>
<td>6576</td>
<td>14990</td>
<td>20162</td>
<td>41262</td>
<td>6007</td>
<td>10921</td>
<td>7066</td>
<td>14927</td>
<td>26676</td>
<td>6765</td>
<td>8681</td>
<td>23434</td>
<td>12320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section U (Ex-territorial organizations and teams)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source:* own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office
The representatives of Section S and T (Other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs) are also numerous in all provinces. Then we have Section I (Activity connected with accommodation and gastronomy services), which plays a vital role in all regions, especially in those with high potential of tourism development – Mazowieckie, Małopolskie, Dolnośląskie, Pomorskie and Zachodnio-Pomorskie.

The lowest values in all provinces are shown by Section U (Ex-territorial organizations and teams), whose representatives, except for the Mazowieckie province, are counted in single digits. Also Section B (Mining and excavating) is represented in a smaller number, which is obviously connected with the existence of exploitation deposits, mostly found in Mazowieckie, Śląskie, Dolnośląskie and Wielkopolskie provinces. The next two sections – Section D (Generating and supplying electric power, gas, water steam, hot water and air for air-conditioning systems) and Section E (Water supply: management of waste and refuse and reclaiming activity) are relatively less represented in all regions.

Table 2 presents the number of enterprises operating in particular provinces of Poland in 2014 divided into micro, small, medium and large enterprises. The biggest number of economic entities by and large (699212 entities) operate in the Mazowieckie province, which dominates other regions in all types of enterprises in this classification. It is followed by the Śląskie province, with 453496 entities. The next places in the ranking are occupied by the Wielkopolskie (387977 enterprises), Małopolskie (343375) and Dolnośląskie (336928) provinces. The smallest number of enterprises operates in the smallest provinces and those with the smallest population: Podlaskie (94721 enterprises), Opolskie (98741), Lubuskie (107689 enterprises), Świętokrzyskie (108068) and Warmińsko-Mazurskie (119913 entities). In all regions the most numerous group of enterprises are the smallest ones – micro-enterprises, followed by small and medium enterprises. Large enterprises occupy the past position in all provinces.

The above characteristic aims at providing a general description of the economy of particular regions in our country, without reference to the number of inhabitants or other figures allowing comparisons.
Tab. 2. The number of enterprises – according to their size in particular provinces of Poland in 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province (NTS-2)</th>
<th>Micro</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Large</th>
<th>Sum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dolnośląskie</td>
<td>324165</td>
<td>10231</td>
<td>2162</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>336928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kujawsko-Pomorskie</td>
<td>179064</td>
<td>7094</td>
<td>1620</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>187996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lubelskie</td>
<td>158855</td>
<td>5766</td>
<td>1260</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>166027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lubuskie</td>
<td>103043</td>
<td>3807</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>107689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Łódzkie</td>
<td>222161</td>
<td>9779</td>
<td>1878</td>
<td>261</td>
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<tr>
<td>Małopolskie</td>
<td>327483</td>
<td>13083</td>
<td>2455</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>343375</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mazowieckie</td>
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<td>24618</td>
<td>5021</td>
<td>1092</td>
<td>699212</td>
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<td>Opolskie</td>
<td>94584</td>
<td>3391</td>
<td>677</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>98741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podkarpackie</td>
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<td>5918</td>
<td>1268</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>155034</td>
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<tr>
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<td>768</td>
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<td>Pomorskie</td>
<td>253573</td>
<td>9277</td>
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<td>238</td>
<td>265033</td>
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<tr>
<td>Śląskie</td>
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<td>453496</td>
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<tr>
<td>Świętokrzyskie</td>
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<td>4065</td>
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<td>118</td>
<td>108068</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warmińsko-mazurskie</td>
<td>234079</td>
<td>4624</td>
<td>1027</td>
<td>118</td>
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<td>3104</td>
<td>440</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zachodniopomorskie</td>
<td>668481</td>
<td>6587</td>
<td>1307</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>217045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office
Fig. 1. The number of enterprises in the Dolnośląskie province divided into sections of Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

As we can observe in Figure 1, the dominant position in the Dolnośląskie province is occupied by section G (Wholesale and retail trade; car repairs), followed by construction (section F), and section L (Activity related to real estate market services) and section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity). Section U (Ex-territorial organizations and teams) and section D (Generating and supplying electric power, gas, water steam, hot water and air for air-conditioning systems) are of lesser importance for the region.

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office
Fig. 2. The number of enterprises in the Kujawsko-Pomorskie province divided into sections of Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

Figure 2 presents the quantity structure of particular sections of the Polish Classification of Activity in the Kujawsko-Pomorskie province. Traditionally, section G (Wholesale and retail trade) leads the ranking. Construction (section F) and Industrial Processing (section C) are significant, whereas section U does not practically exist. Section B (mining and excavating) is only slightly represented.
Fig. 3. The number of enterprises in the Lubelskie province divided into sections of the Polish Classification of Activity (2014)

![Bar chart showing the number of enterprises in sections of the Lubelskie province]

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

As we can see from Figure 3, section G – retail and wholesale trade; car repair – dominates in the Lubelskie province. A vital role is played by construction (section F), industrial processing (section C) and section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity, as well as transport and warehouse management (section H).
Fig. 4. The number of enterprises in the Lubuskie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

In the Lubuskie region section G – wholesale and retail trade and car repair – also dominates. Construction (section F), section L (activity related to real estate market services), industrial processing (section C) and section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity) also play an important role in the analyzed region.
Fig. 5. The number of enterprises in the Łódzkie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

Figure 5 presents the graph depicting the quantity structure in the Łódzkie region. Traditionally, it is dominated by wholesale and retail trade and car repair. An important role is played by section C – industrial processing, construction – section F and section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity), and also section H (Transport and warehouse management) and section S and T (Other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs).
Fig. 6. The number of enterprises in the Mazowieckie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

As we can see from the above graph, the most numerous section in the Mazowieckie province is section G – wholesale and retail trade and car repair. It is followed by section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity) and construction (section F), industrial processing (section C) and Sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs). Section U (Ex-territorial organizations and teams) is the least numerous one in the province, though it should be emphasized that the Mazowieckie province houses the biggest number of entities from this sector, which is attributed to the fact that Warsaw is the capital city of Poland and of the region.
Fig. 7. The number of enterprises in the Małopolskie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

The Małopolskie province also has the biggest numbers of enterprises in section G (wholesale and retail trade and car repair) (Figure 7). High places in the ranking are occupied by construction (section F) and industrial processing (section C). Also section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity) and Section S and T (Other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs) are of vital importance for the region.
Fig. 8. The number of enterprises in the Opolskie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

Figure 8 presents the quantity structure of enterprises in the Opolskie province. As in other provinces, the leading section is retail and wholesale trade and car repair (section G). It is followed by construction (section F). Of vital importance are also section C – industrial processing; L – activities related to real estate market services; M – professional, scientific and technical activity.
Fig. 9. The number of enterprises in the Podkarpackie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Podkarpackie

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

Figure 9 presents the quantity structure of economic entities in the Podkarpackie province. It comes as no surprise that, just like in other provinces, section G – wholesale and retail trade and car repair – has the biggest number of enterprises. The second position is occupied by section F (construction). Also section C – industrial processing – has a big number of enterprises, whereas section M – professional, scientific and technical activity – has a slightly lower number of economic entities. The same can be observed in Section S and T (Other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs).
Fig. 10. The number of enterprises in the Podlaskie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

Figure 10 presents the graph illustrating the quantity structure of economic entities in the Podlaskie province. Also in this province the proportions between particular sections do not differ from other provinces. Trade – section G – dominates, followed by construction – section F. Lower, though significant values are achieved by section C – industrial processing and section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, as well as Section S and T – other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs.
Fig. 11. The number of enterprises in the Pomorskie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

The chart above presents the number of enterprises in particular sections of the Polish Classification of Activities in the Pomorskie province. Once again, unsurprisingly, the most popular form of activity is retail and wholesale trade and car repair – section G. We should emphasize the high share of section F – construction and industrial processing (section C) in this structure. Of vital importance, though with slightly lower shares, are section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, L – activities related to real estate market services and H – transport and warehouse management.
Fig. 12. The number of enterprises in the Śląskie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

The above chart presents the quantity structure of enterprises in the Śląskie province. Again, the highest number of enterprises operate in section G – retail and wholesale trade and car repair. It is followed by construction (section F) and industrial processing (section C), followed by section M – professional, scientific and technical activity and transport and warehouse management (section H).
Fig. 13. The number of enterprises in the Świętokrzyskie province according to the Polish Classification of Activities (2014)

Świętokrzyskie

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office

Figure 13 presents the quantity structure of enterprises conducting economic activity in the Świętokrzyskie province. Unsurprisingly, section G – retail and wholesale trade and car repair – also dominates here. Construction (section F) and industrial processing (section C) are popular forms of activity. The next place in the ranking is occupied by section M – professional, scientific and technical activity and transport and warehouse management (section H) and other services and households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs (section S and T).
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Figure 14 presents the quantity structure of enterprises operating in the area of the Warmińsko-Mazurskie province. It is also dominated by retail and wholesale trade and car repair (section G). It is followed by the construction sector (section F). Further in the ranking we find section L – activities related to real estate market services, section C – industrial processing and section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, then section S and T – other services and households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs, and section O – public administration and national defense, compulsory social security. There are no representatives of section U (ex-territorial organizations and teams) in the analyzed region.

Source: own elaboration based on the data from the Central Statistical Office
Figure 15 shows the number of economic entities divided into sections of the Polish Classification of Activities in the Wielkopolskie province. Unsurprisingly, also in this region the biggest share in the quantity structure is taken by section G – retail and wholesale trade and car repair. The runner-up, which is also typical for other regions, is construction – section F. It is followed by section C – industrial processing. An important role in the region is played by section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, section H – transport and warehouse management, and section S and T – other services and households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs, and also section O – public administration and national defense, compulsory social security. One should emphasize a relatively higher (the highest in all regions both in absolute and in relative terms) share of section A – agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishery.
Figure 16 presents the chart illustrating the quantity structure of economic entities operating in the area of the Zachodniopomorskie province. Here, as in other regions, section G – wholesale and retail trade and car repair – is the leader. It is followed, as in other regions, by construction (section F). Then we can see section C – industrial processing, section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, section L – activities related to real estate market services, section H – transport and warehouse management and section I – activities connected with accommodation and gastronomy services, section O – public administration and national defense, compulsory social security, and then section S and T – other services and households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs.

**Conclusions**

1. In all provinces the biggest number of enterprises belong to Section G (Wholesale and retail trade, car repairs), which is the most popular form of business activity in Poland. The second position in all regions is occupied by Section F (Construction), followed by Section H (Transport and warehouse management). Section L (real-estate market services) is also popular in all regions.
Representatives of the S and T sections (Other services and Households employing staff, producing goods and providing services for their own needs) are numerous in all provinces. They are followed by Section I (Accommodation and catering services), which is important in all regions, especially those with high tourism development potential – Mazowieckie, Małopolskie, Dolnośląskie, Pomorskie and Zachodniopomorskie.

2. The lowest number of enterprises in all provinces belong to Section U (extraterritorial organizations and teams), with a single digit representation, with the exception of Mazowieckie province. Also Section B (Mining and excavating) is represented by a smaller number of entities, which operate mostly in Mazowieckie, Śląskie, Dolnośląskie and Wielkopolskie provinces. The next two sections – D (Production and supply of electricity, gas, water steam, hot water and air for air-conditioning systems) and E (Water supply: waste and refuse management and activity connected with reclaiming) are represented in all regions by a relatively smaller number of enterprises.

3. The biggest number of business units is by far in Mazowieckie province (742172 units) and it dominates over other regions in this classification. The second position in this ranking is occupied by Śląskie province, where 461933 entities operate. It is followed by Wielkopolskie (404419), Małopolskie (356785) and Dolnośląskie (351091). On the other hand, the lowest number of enterprises can be found in the smallest and most sparsely populated provinces: Podlaskie (98339 units), Opolskie (100077), Lubuskie (110084 companies) and Warmińsko-Mazurskie (123361 units). In all provinces micro enterprises top the ranking, followed by small and medium enterprises. Large enterprises are the smallest category in all provinces.

4. In Dolnośląskie province Section G dominates (Wholesale and retail trade, car repairs), followed by Construction (Section F) as well as Section L (Real estate services) and Section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity). Section U (Exterritorial organizations and teams) and Section D (Production and supply of electricity, gas, water steam, hot water and air for air-conditioning systems) are of secondary importance.

5. In Kujawsko-Pomorskie, retail and wholesale trade – Section G – dominates traditionally. Important roles are played by construction (Section F) and Section C (Industrial processing). Section U (Exterritorial organizations and teams) practically does not exist, whereas mining and excavating (Section B) is poorly represented.

6. Lubelskie province is dominated by section G – retail and wholesale; car repairs. Construction (section F) plays an important part, as well as industrial processing (section C) and Section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity) and transport and warehouse management (section H).
7. In Lubuskie province section G (wholesale and retail trade; car repairs) is also the most numerous one. Construction (section F), section L (Real estate services), industrial processing (section C) and section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity) play a vital role in the described region.

8. In Łódzkie province wholesale and retail trade and car repairs traditionally occupies the first position. Other important sections include: C – industrial processing, F – construction, and M – professional, scientific and technical activity, followed by sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs).

9. In Mazowieckie province the most numerous section is G – wholesale and retail trade and car repairs. It is followed by section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity) and construction (section F), industrial processing (section C) and Sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs). The smallest number of entities belong to section U (exterritorial organizations and teams), though it should be emphasized that Mazowieckie province has the biggest number of entities from this sector, due to the fact that Warsaw is the capital city of Poland and the region.

10. Małopolskie province also has the highest number of enterprises operating in section G (wholesale and retail trade and car repairs). High in the ranking are also construction (section F) and industrial processing (section C). An important role is played by section M (Professional, scientific and technical activity) and Sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs).

11. Retail and wholesale trade and car repairs (section G) also dominate in Opolskie province. The second position is occupied by construction (section F). Important roles are played by section C – industrial processing; L – real estate services; M – professional, scientific and technical activity.

12. Like in other provinces, in Podkarpackie province section G – retail and wholesale trade and car repairs has the biggest quantity of enterprises. It is followed by section F (construction). Section C – industrial processing – also shows high numbers of enterprises, followed by a slightly less numerous section – M – professional, scientific and technical activity and sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs).

13. In Podlaskie province proportions between particular sections are similar to those in other regions. Trade – section G – dominates, followed by construction – section F. Lower, though significant values are achieved by section C – industrial processing and section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, as well as sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs).
14. The most common form of activity in Pomorskie province is retail and wholesale trade and car repairs – section G. It is worth noticing that sections F – construction and C – industrial processing occupy high positions in this ranking. Other important sections include: M – Professional, scientific and technical activity; L – Real estate services and H – Transport and warehouse management.

15. In Śląskie province section G – retail and wholesale trade and car repairs once again has the highest share. The second position is occupied by construction (section F) and industrial processing (section C), then section M – professional, scientific and technical activity and section H – transport and warehouse management.

16. Podkarpackie province is also dominated by section G – retail and wholesale trade and car repairs. Other popular forms of activity include: construction (section F) and industrial processing (section C). They are followed by section M – professional, scientific and technical activity and section H – transport and warehouse management and sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs).

17. In Warmińsko-Mazurskie retail and wholesale trade and car repairs also dominate (section G). The second position is occupied by construction (section F), followed by section L – real estate services, section C – industrial processing and M – professional, scientific and technical activity, and finally – sections S and T (Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs) and section O – Public administration and national defense, obligatory social security. There is no representative of section U (exterritorial organizations and teams) in this region.

18. Section G – retail and wholesale trade and car repairs also dominated in Wielkopolskie province. It is followed by construction – section F – a typical situation also in other regions. Further places in the region are occupied by section C – industrial processing, section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, section H – transport and warehouse management and sections S and T - Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs, and section O - Public administration and national defense, obligatory social security. We should emphasize a relatively higher (the highest of all provinces in absolute and relative terms) share of section A – agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishery.

19. In the area of Zachodniopomorskie province section G – wholesale and retail trade and car repairs also achieves the highest value. It is followed, just like in other regions, by construction (section F), section C – industrial processing and then by section M – professional, scientific and technical activity, section L – activities related to real estate services, section H – transport and wareho-
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use management and section I – accommodation and catering activities, section O – public administration and national defense; obligatory social security, and then sections S and T – Other services and Households employing staff and producing goods and providing services for their own needs.

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