



European  
Commission

# The European Union and Roma – Factsheet Poland

<http://ec.europa.eu/justice/roma-integration/poland/>

4 April 2014

## 1. Key Information

Roma population	
Estimate in National Roma Integration Strategy	12 731
Council of Europe Estimate	32 500 (data from 2012) i.e. 0.09 % of the population
National Strategy	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/poland/national-strategy/national_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/poland/national-strategy/national_en.htm</a>
Funding	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/poland/index_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma-integration/poland/index_en.htm</a>

## 2. National Roma Integration – 2014 review

	Key steps taken since 2011	Identified Gaps
Education	<p>Implementation of Programme for the Roma community, including incentives for pre-school and compulsory education, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organisation of transport to school;</li> <li>• school meals;</li> <li>• extracurricular and summer holiday activities;</li> <li>• enhancing Roma parents' involvement in the school;</li> <li>• psychological and pedagogical assistance for Roma parents;</li> <li>• organisation of educational classes for adult Roma people;</li> <li>• publications on Roma history and culture, and other teaching materials</li> </ul>	<p>Should ensure desegregation and better implementation of measures.</p> <p>Should prioritise reducing secondary school dropout rates, promoting vocational training and increasing participation in tertiary education.</p>

<b>Employment</b>	Subsidised jobs, training and internships schemes exist.	Needs more targeted measures to integrate Roma in the labour market.
<b>Health</b>	Preventive health measures focusing on Roma women and children; vaccination; co-financing medicines  Supporting community nurses.	Needs more measures to improve access of Roma to healthcare.
<b>Housing</b>	Implementation of the Programme for the Roma community, supporting improved Roma housing conditions.	Should improve access of Roma to social housing more effectively by supporting them with sustainable and adequate funding.
<b>Anti-discrimination</b>	Awareness raising activities promoting cultural dialogue among Roma and non-Roma.	Needs to enforce anti-discrimination legislation more effectively.
<b>Funding</b>	Roma inclusion has been supported by national and EU funds.  In the 2007-2013 financial period, Poland has allocated 11.2% (~ EUR 1089 million) of its total European Social Fund (ESF) budget for integrating disadvantaged people.	As of now Poland should allocate at least 20% of its total ESF budget to fighting social exclusion and poverty.
<b>Priorities for the future (Commission recommendation)</b>	Better-targeted, result-oriented interventions in all relevant policy areas are needed.  Measures should be supported by adequate and sustainable funding, efficient monitoring, and constructive dialogue with civil society.	

### 3. Contacts

#### Contact Points

##### National Roma Contact Point

Ministry of Administration and Digitisation  
Department of Religious Beliefs and National Ethnic Minorities

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<p><b>Managing Authorities for ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) funded projects</b></p>	<p><a href="http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authorities.cfm?lan=EN&amp;pay=pl">http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authorities.cfm?lan=EN&amp;pay=pl</a></p>
<p><b>Fundamental Rights Agency Country Report:</b></p>	<p><a href="http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2012/situation-roma-11-eu-member-states-survey-results-glance">http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2012/situation-roma-11-eu-member-states-survey-results-glance</a></p>

## 4. Promising practices

### Funding for education and employment

In 2005-2013, the Ministry of National Education transferred additional co-financing for education of Roma pupils to the local authorities, which amounted to PLN 115 049 000 (ca. EUR 28.7 million).

Local authorities used the additional funding to employ Roma education assistants, for additional remedial classes, school trips and other measures supporting the development of Roma pupils in order to fill any gaps in their education.

The project 'Innovative Roma on the labour market II' was launched in 2011 and ended in late 2012. Projects such as implemented by the Polish Roma Union in Szczecinek were co-financed by the European Social Fund and aimed at finding jobs for Roma by upgrading their qualifications. More effective support was given to Roma entering the labour market by helping them find training courses, increasing Roma participation in the social sphere and boosting confidence among Roma on the job market.