

11th International Geography Olympiad

FIELDWORK EXERCISE

iGeo Kraków 2014



Resource booklet

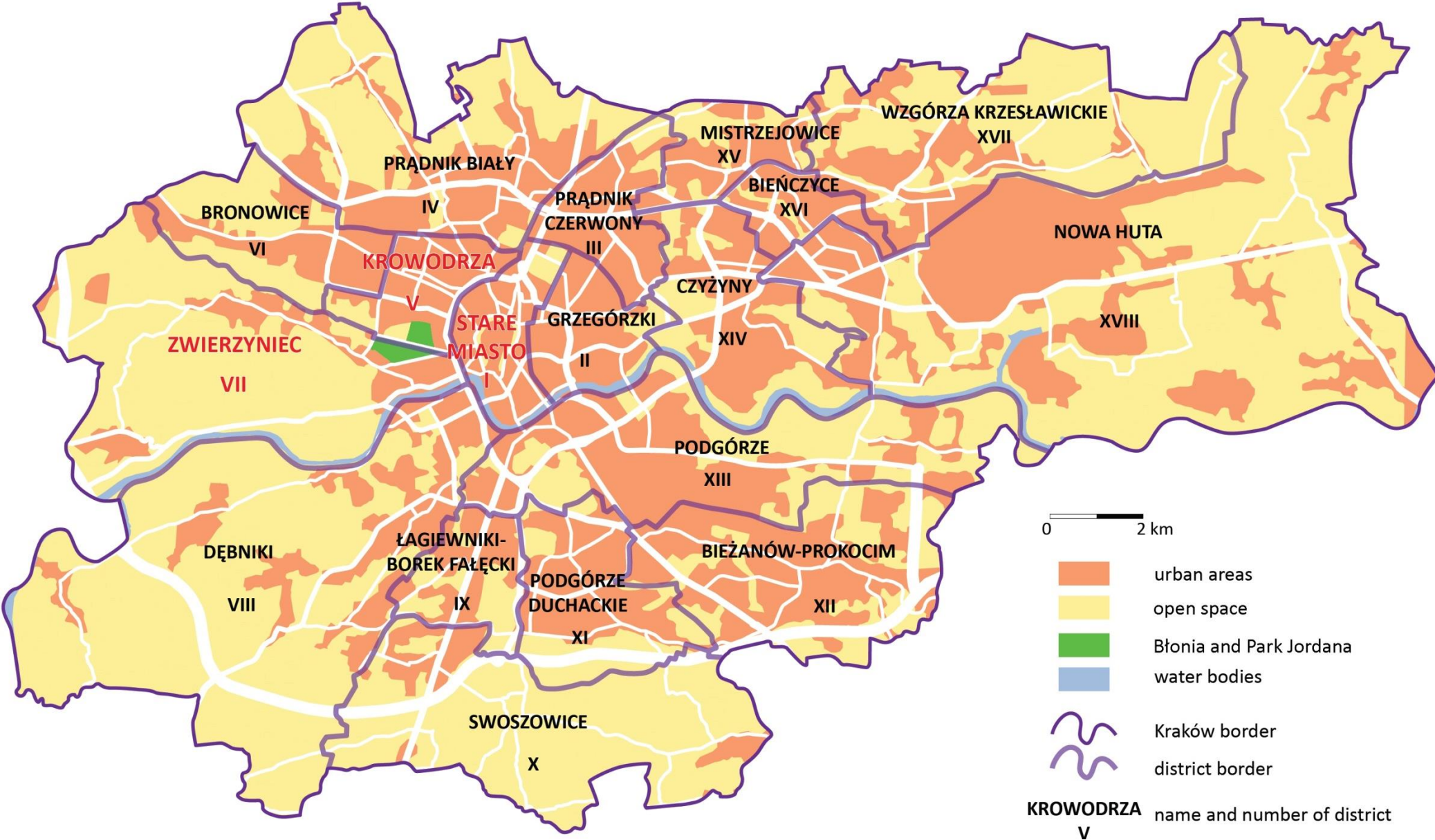
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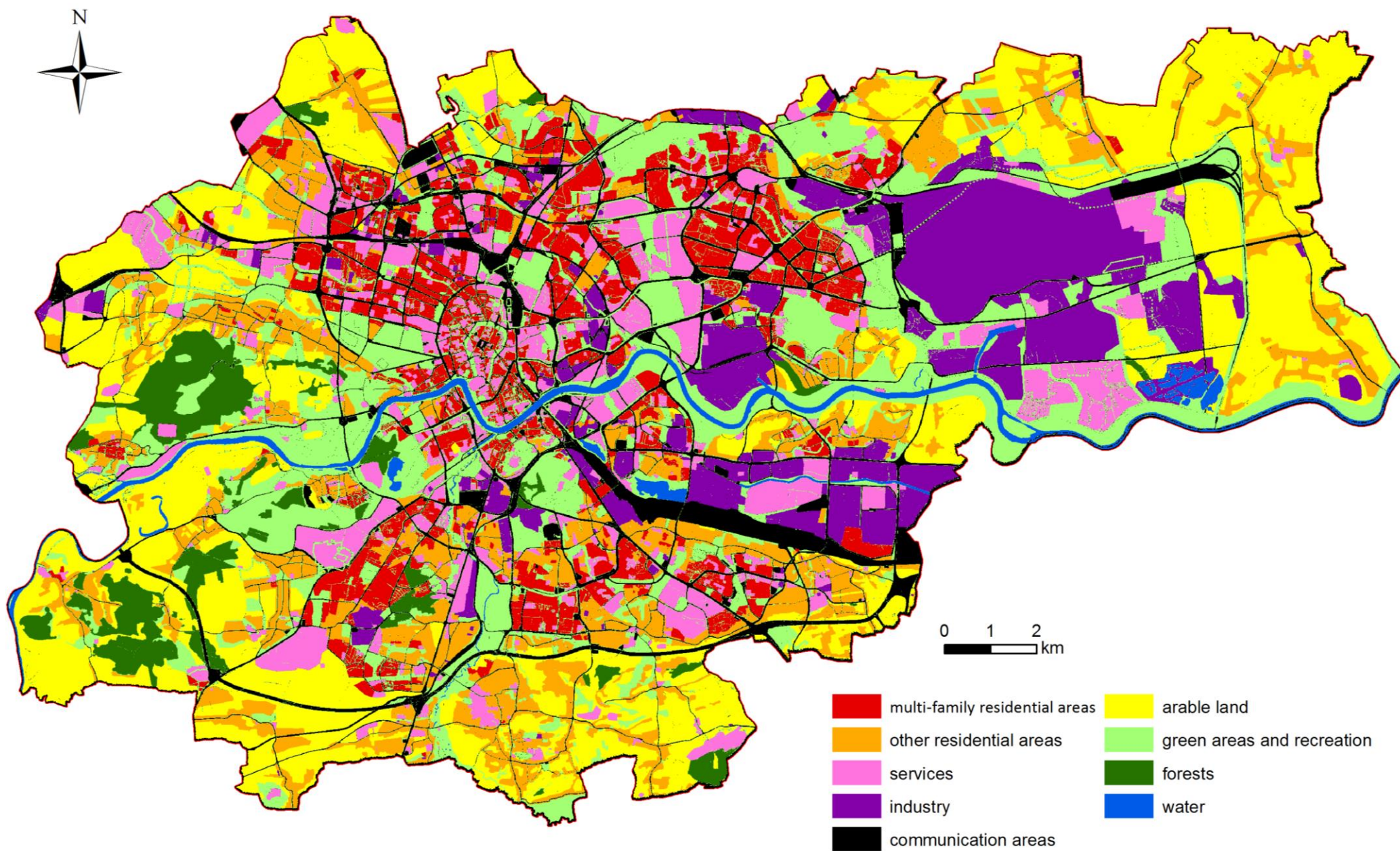
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DISTRICTS OF KRAKÓW

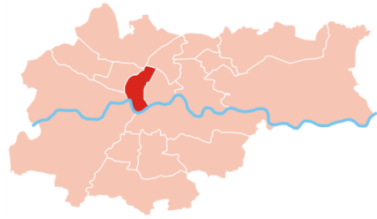
The city is divided into 18 administrative districts, each with a degree of autonomy within the municipal government.



LAND USE OF KRAKÓW



DESCRIPTION OF THREE SELECTED DISTRICTS

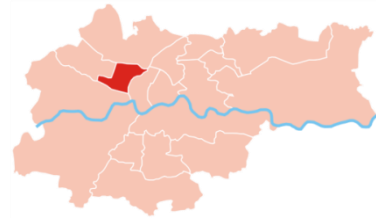
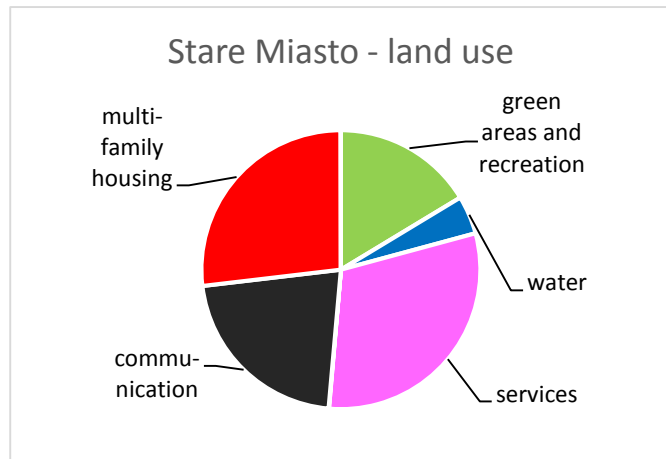


Stare Miasto, which means "Old Town", is Kraków's Administrative District no. I. It consists of the Kraków's historic Old Town itself, as well as the Wawel Castle Hill and the former Jewish quarter of Kazimierz.

The old town of Kraków is the most prominent example of an Old Town in Poland, because for many centuries Kraków was the royal capital of Poland, until Sigismund III Vasa relocated the royal court to Warsaw in 1596.

The Old Town district is the core area of Kraków in various aspects. In terms of economic activity the district is dominated by tourism like restaurants and hotels. We also find many offices and cultural institutions in the Old Town.

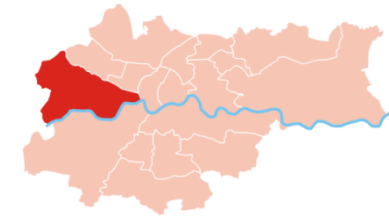
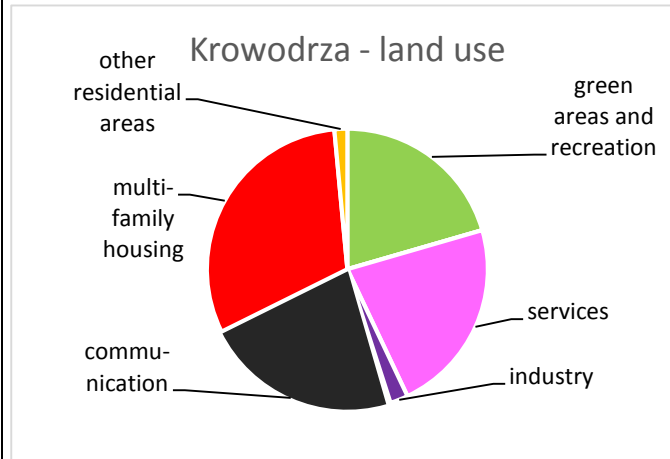
The historic character and the high density of the built-up area affect land use in the historic city centre. Most of the buildings are multi storey buildings, both for residential and commercial use. A major part of the land used for infrastructure is occupied by the main railway station located near the historical city centre.



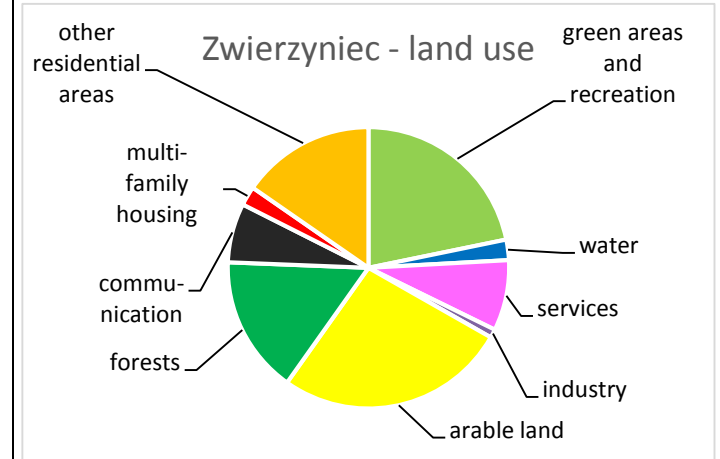
Krowodrza is Kraków's Administrative District No. V. This district is a centre of university facilities and is the main quarter for student housing. On the campus of the University of Science and Technology (UST) there are 17 students' dormitories offering accommodation for nearly 8,000 students. On the grounds of the campus there are: students' clubs, sport facilities, supermarkets, fitness club, post offices, banks and kindergartens.

During the academic year, the facilities on the campus of the UST are also used by students of other universities in Kraków. In the summertime, the main tourist season, the campus dormitories are turned into the biggest hotel cluster in Kraków.

Krowodrza district is a continuation of a compact dense urban area west from the city centre. Business establishments cater to both the local population as well as to tourists. A large share of the public service areas are taken up by hospitals, research institutes and schools. In Krowodrza district you can also find parks and sports facilities where the inhabitants of Kraków spend their free time.



Zwierzyniec is one of the residential districts of Kraków with a large proportion of recreational areas: meadows and forests (Blonia, Las Wolski). The economic structure is dominated by small private companies. In the district there are also more open suburban areas with a large proportion of agricultural land. In the early 20th century an exclusive residential area was built for Kraków's university professors, doctors and artists. It was located near the Kosciuszko Mound. There are some important landmarks in this district: Kościuszko Mound, the Church of St. Salvatore, the Blessed Bronisława Chapel next to the Blonia Meadow and Bielany Monastery and the ZOO in the Wolski Forest



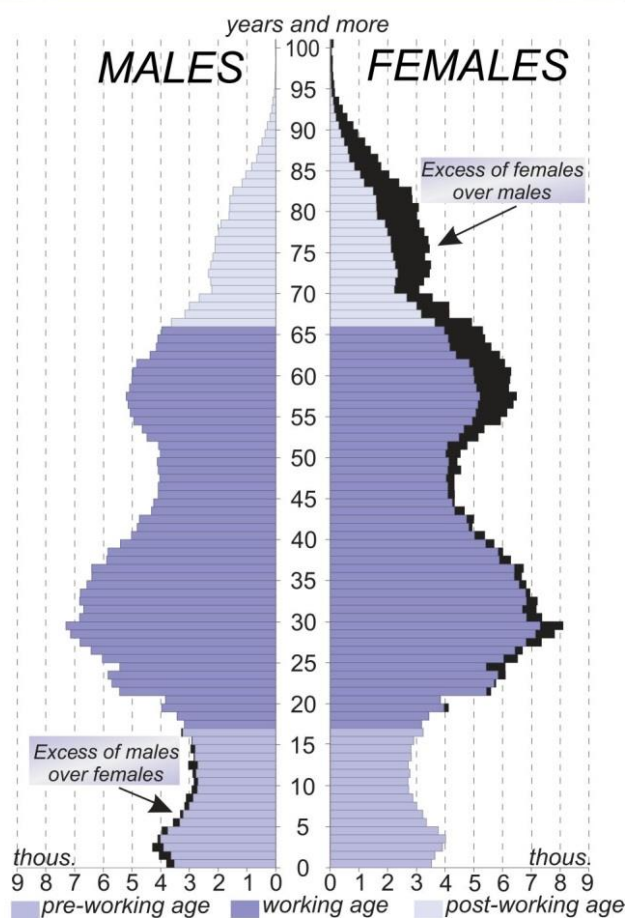
POPULATION DATA FOR KRAKÓW AND THREE SELECTED DISTRICTS

KRAKÓW

Population of Krakow (in thousands)

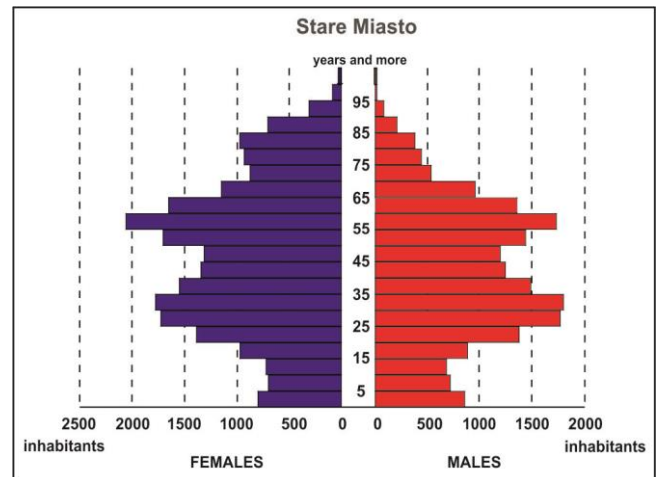


POPULATION BY SEX AND AGE IN 2012

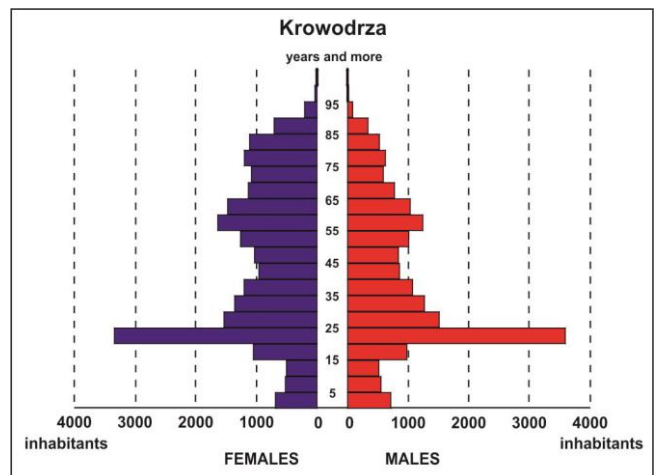


Kraków is the second largest city in Poland with a population of 759,000 in 2014. The demographic structure is characterized by a relatively low proportion of young people below the age of 18 and relatively large proportions in the economically productive age group as well as senior citizens over 65 years of age. Some of the important features of the demographic development of Kraków are: decreasing fertility, decreasing mortality and lengthening of the average life duration, a positive net migration, a high feminization rate (100:114) and a high percentage of people with higher education (18%).

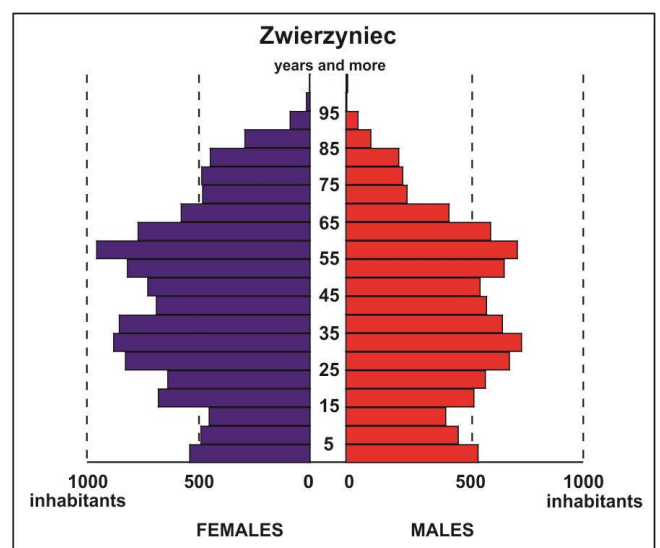
SELECTED DISTRICTS



In terms of demographics, the Old Town is a district with a relatively high proportion of older people, especially women over 65 years of age. This is related to the dominance of older buildings and the migration of younger people to outer districts.



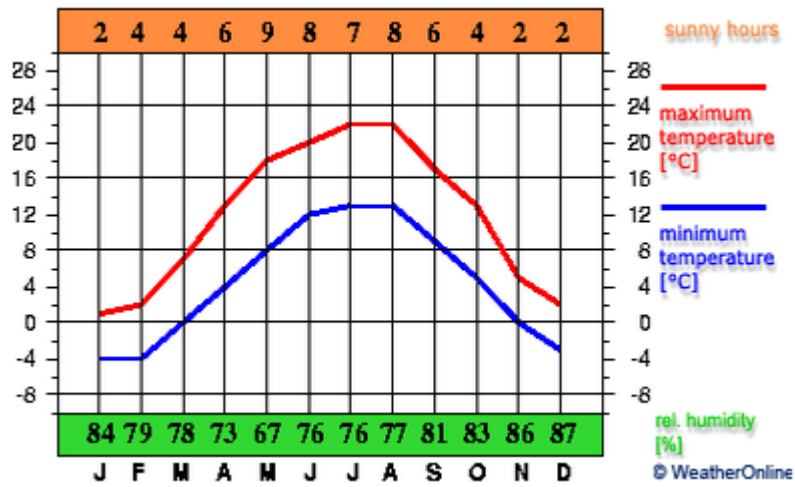
The large numbers of students living in this district is shown by the dominance of the 20-24 age group in the demographic profile.



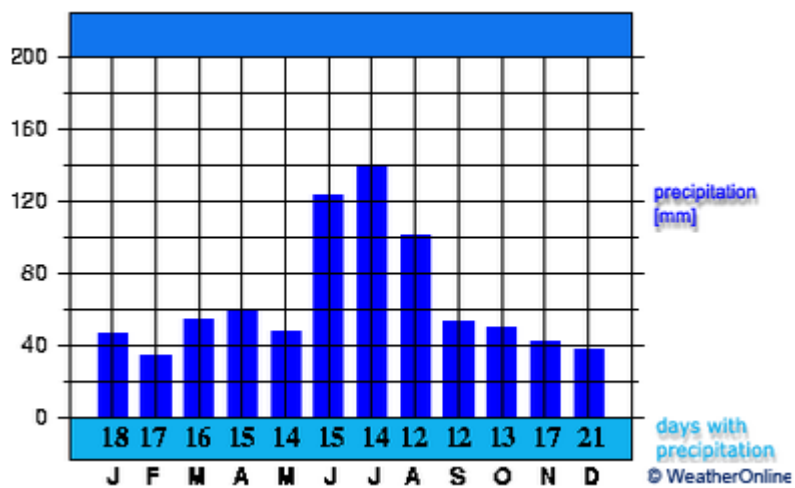
The population pyramid for this district shows an ageing population.

CLIMATE DATA FOR KRAKÓW

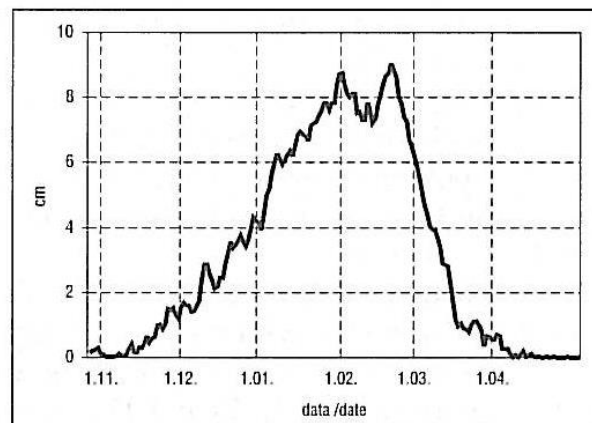
TEMPERATURE



PRECIPITATION



THE AVERAGE DEPTH OF SNOW COVER



THE HISTORY OF BLONIA AND PARK JORDANA



Fig 1: Blonia [*Błonia* in Polish] Park is a vast meadow with an area of 48 hectares. From the 12th to the 14th century the meadow belonged to the Norbertine Convent, who in 1366 exchanged it with the city's authorities for a manor in Florianska Street. For a long time the Blonia meadow was used by peasants from neighboring villages to graze their cattle.

Until the 19th century Blonia was largely neglected, and often flooded by the Rudawa river. In the spring it turned into a wetland with small islands, probably contributing to the spread of epidemics.



Fig.2: After drainage of the swamps, Blonia was suitable as a site for large gatherings. In 1809, when the city was incorporated into the Duchy of Warsaw, Blonia was the place to salute Napoleon's troops, organized by Prince Józef Poniatowski and General Jan Henryk Dąbrowski. At the turn of the 20th Century Blonia got a more representative role: it was a place of celebrations, such as the Anniversary of the Battle at Grunwald (500th in 1910) and the Battle of Vienna (300th in 1983).



Fig.3: No buildings have ever been constructed on the grasslands of Blonia, although over the centuries there have been many proposals to develop this large open area. During the Second World War the Germans, for example, were planning to build exclusive housing estates for German officials and soldiers on Blonia.

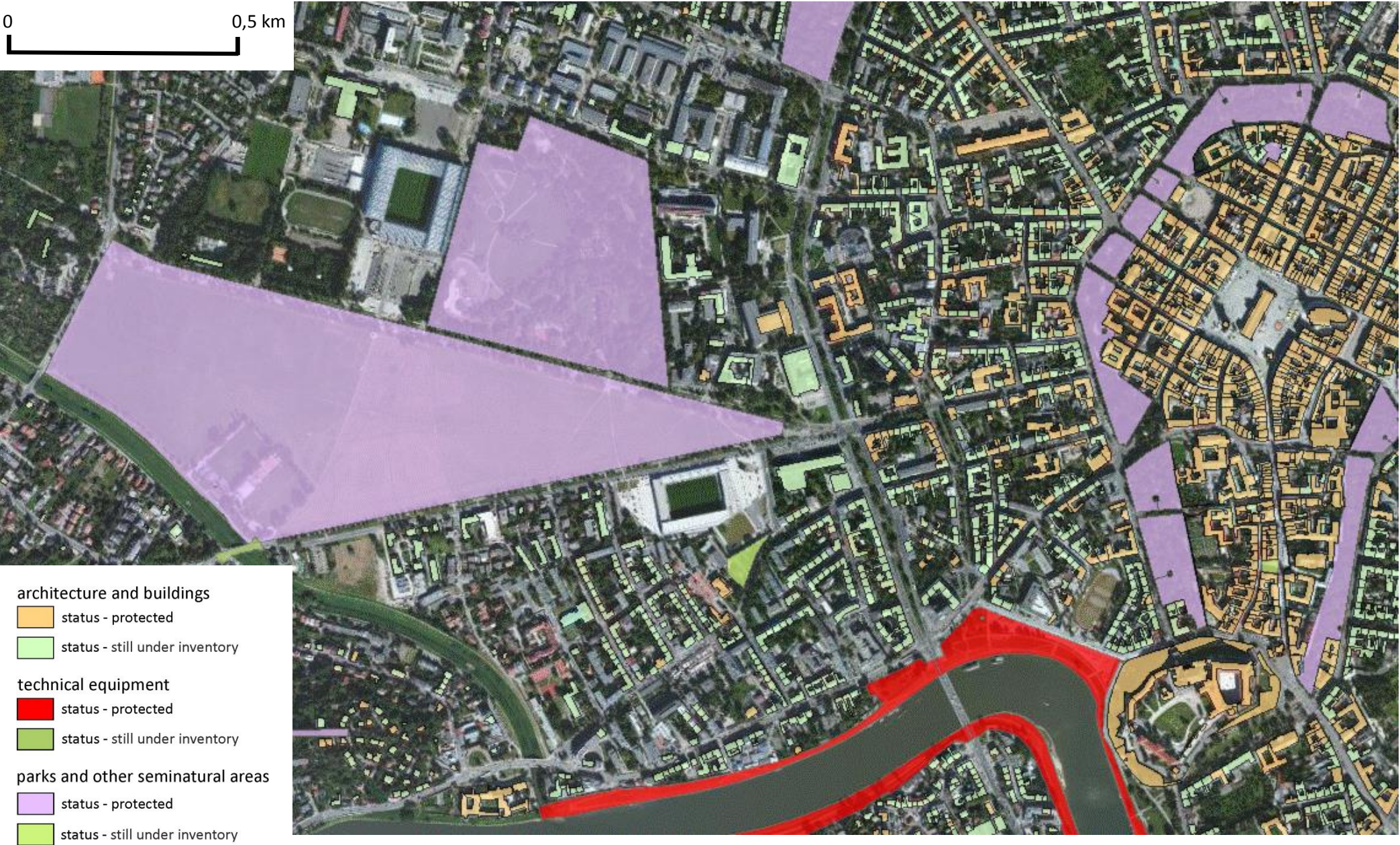
Today Blonia is a recreation area, frequently hosting large events such as concerts and exhibitions. The place is best known for large scale Masses celebrated by Pope John Paul II in 1979, 1983, 1987, 1997 and 2002.



Fig.4: Jordan Park [*Park Jordana* in Polish] (21 hectares) was established in 1889 as the first public playground in Kraków, Poland, and the first of its kind in Europe. During World War II the park was destroyed, but the busts of famous Poles and the monument of Jordan were saved.

The original Jordan Park included a swimming pool, 12 playing and soccer fields, as well as numerous running and exercise tracks. The most innovative aspect of Dr. Henryk Jordan's idea of public parks was to change the public's perception: stressing the importance of physical education and making people realize that physical exercise is as important as intellectual development of children, while shaping their personality. Since the beginning, Jordan Park ran programs based solely on games and exercises. Classes were originally run by students of Kraków's universities, whose work was supervised personally by Dr Jordan.

PROTECTED SPACES AND BUILDINGS NEAR BLONIA



SPORT IN KRAKÓW

Tab. 1. TEAMS, MEMBERS AND NUMBER OF PEOPLE PRACTISING SPORTS IN SPORTS CLUBS (2008 - 2012)

	Clubs				Number of teams			Members of clubs				Number of people practising sports			
	2008	2010	2012	2012 at 1000 residents	2008	2010	2012	2008	2010	2012	2012 at 1000 residents	2008	2010	2012	2012 at 1000 residents
Cracow	95	94	119	0.16	273	260	297	16367	16125	19305	25	15370	14865	18788	25
Małopolska	716	716	836		1212	1144	1259	62469	59364	68196		58848	55562	68199	
Poland	6472	6901	7860		10780	10876	11821	521380	514096	554231		486282	490086	546104	

Tab. 2. CRACOW SPORTS FACILITIES - 2012

sports stadiums	34
sports stadiums of which football	27
sports grounds for big games	45
sports grounds of which football	44
tennis courts	63
sports halls	20
sports rooms	39
covered sports swimming-pools	15
open swimming-pools	4
archery sports courses	2
riding sports courses	4
water sports courses	3
covered ice rinks artificially frozen	3
rifle-ranges	3
aqua-parks	1

Tab. 3. SELECTED SPORTS FIELDS AND DISCIPLINES IN SPORTS CLUBS IN CRACOW - 2012

	Number of teams	Persons practising		Number of teams	Persons practising		Number of teams	Persons practising
1. Football	68	6372	Motorsport	7	113	Sport shooting	3	223
2. Volleyball	34	1354	Sport dancing	7	688	Taekwondo	3	407
3. Basketball	29	1263	Air sport	6	254	Wu-shu	3	181
4. Table tennis	17	587	Badminton	5	183	Archery	2	79
5. Swimming	15	888	Boxing	5	110	Figure skating	2	107
6. Athletics	13	829	Bridge	5	131	Muaythai	2	60
7. Chess	13	915	Classic canoeing	5	204	Beach volleyball	2	26
8. Alpine skiing	12	676	Mountain cycling	5	102	Rugby	2	220
9. Tennis	12	382	Fitness	4	198	Snooker	2	40
10. Equestrian sport	11	652	Mountain canoeing	4	94	Fencing	2	91
Karate	10	1365	Kick-boxing	4	99	Curling	1	42
Indoor football	9	230	Snowboard	4	111	Kendo	1	30
Handball	9	467	Rowing	4	152	Model sailing	1	27
Artistic gymnastics	8	440	Ice hockey	3	177	Orienteering	1	38
Judo	8	636	Jujitsu	3	157	Pentathlon	1	96
Sailing (regatta)	8	155	Road cycling	3	72	Ringo	1	20
Climbing	7	563	Body-building	3	112	Unihockey	1	53
Rhythm gymnastics	7	285	Classic skiing	3	84	Roller skating	1	58

CRACOVIA AND WISLA SPORTGROUNDS: PRESENT AND BETTER DAYS



Photo A: Location of selected objects on the *Cracovia and Wisla Sportgrounds* (2014)
1 - amphitheater, 2 - pools, 3 - athletics stadium



Photo B: Construction of the amphitheatre during the 1930s (object 1)



Photo C1 & C2: Amphitheatre in 2014 (object 1)



Photo D: Entrance to the athletics stadium in the 1940s (object 3)



Photo E: Athletic stadium - dance show by German girls during the 2nd World War (object 3)



Photo F: Closed athletics stadium in 2014 (object 3)



Photo G. Swimming Pool KS Cracovia in the 1940s (object 2)



Photo H. Swimming Pool KS Cracovia in the 1940s (object 2)



Photo I1 & I2 Swimming Pool KS Cracovia in 2014 (object 2)

EVALUATING THE USE OF PUBLIC SPACE

In urban areas, public spaces are declared as public spaces for a purpose; a few have limits on their use, but many (like the Stare Miasto in Kraków) are used differently by different people at various times of the day, week or year. We can find children feeding pigeons, adults shopping, tourists enjoying the sights, students clubbing until the early hours or elderly people resting.

The users of the public space can be classified by their purpose for coming to the space (e.g. shopping, education, recreation, meetings, sightseeing) and by socio-economic characteristics (sex and age, occupation, etc.). Such classification would require a detailed survey and observation. However, just thinking about purposes of the use of public space, and then looking at the demography of the users allows us to generalise and form our own ideas. We don't need precise data, we just need a way of making sense of what we see in public space.

When 'planners' look at proposals for a new use of public space or its redevelopment, they often have a 'purpose' concept and a user profile in mind. The more multiple purposes the proposal offers and the more users it can attract, the more successful it will be.

When evaluating public places, geographers and urban planners can use a selection of criteria from the diagram below to check to what extent a public space (or a planning proposal for a public place) meets the wishes of the (future) users.



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<http://wikipedia.org>

Authors of photographs:

Biernacki Leszek - Fig. 3
Googlemaps - photo A
Hermanowicz Henryk - photo G
Muzeum Historyczne Miasta Krakowa – Fig. 1, photo B
Muzeum Narodowe w Krakowie - Fig. 2
National Digital Archives - photo D, photo E, photo H
Warcholik Witold - photo C1, photo C2, photo F, Photo I, photo J
Ziembicka Bogna - Fig. 4