**ABSTRACT**

The paper presents research results concerning the impact of foreign direct investments on the economic development of Lower Silesia in the years 1999-2011. The first year analysed is 1999 – the year in which the new administrative division was introduced into Poland, where the number of provinces was reduced from 49 to 16, with 314 districts and 65 cities being given district rights (including communes which also accomplish the tasks of the district).[[1]](#footnote-1)

The research takes into account the most important macroeconomic indicators presenting the region’s development, such as the GDP and investment and employment levels. These indices are based on data from the Statistical Office in Wrocław and the Central Statistical Office of Poland (GUS). Data on companies and entities with foreign capital have been correlated with the above-mentioned indicators to evaluate the foreign investment influence on the region’s economy.

1. The number of district towns in Poland reaches 335, including 44 towns which are at the same time seats of the district and towns with district rights. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)