

THE IMPORTANCE AND ROLE OF THE FINANCIAL INSURANCE SECTOR IN POLAND

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Abstract. Financial insurance plays an important role in market economy. It allows businesses and peoples to go through the period of economic slowdown with the fewest possible losses. Financial insurance sector developed in Poland in the 1990s however it has expanded dynamically over the past years.

This article presents the development and importance of the financial insurance sector in Poland between 2004–2009. It evaluates the scope and the structure of financial insurance with regard to its registered forms, participants, gross written premiums, gross claims paid, balance on technical financial insurance account and selected ratios. At the same time the theoretical and legal aspects of the financial insurance sector in Poland were presented. Data on the development of the financial insurance sector in Poland was taken from the Central Statistical Office and the Polish Financial Supervision Authority.

Key words: financial insurance, shuretyship, acquisition costs ratio, balance on technical financial insurance account, gross claims paid, gross written premiums, net – operating expenses, profitability ratio of technical activity

INTRODUCTION

The financial insurance sector in Poland has developed dynamically over the past years in order to adjust to the reality of the modern market economy. Financial insurance, which began to develop in Poland in the 1990s, is a relatively new product on the domestic market. Its development, both in terms of quality and quantity, has been constant. What is notable is the distinctiveness of financial insurance from the classic types of insurance. On the one hand, there is a strong link between financial insurance and economic mechanisms. On the other hand, there is a need to deal with particular contracts on an individual basis. This is reflected in the fact that financial insurance was the fastest-growing insurance in the Polish insurance sector in 2009.

The aim of this work is to evaluate the role of financial insurance in the Polish insurance market. The following issues were addressed: (1) the role of financial insurance in supporting market stability; (2) the level of development in the financial insurance sector; (3) the structure of the Polish financial insurance sector.

DATA SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY

The analysis carried out in this paper covers the years of 2004–2009. All types of financial insurance in Poland were analysed: credit insurance, shuretyship and insurance of various types of risk. Data on the development of the financial insurance sector in Poland was taken from the Central Statistical Office and the Polish Financial Supervision Authority. Both descriptive and comparative methods of analysis were used, as was the simple statistical method.

The paper first presents the legal and theoretical aspects of the financial insurance sector in Poland, then discusses its general role in the Polish market. Finally, it evaluates the scope and structure of financial insurance in Poland offers conclusions based on the data presented.

THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF FINANCIAL INSURANCE IN POLAND

According to the Act of law of 22 May 2003 on insurance activity, financial insurance belongs to Branch II of property insurance and other personal types of insurance. It refers to the sphere of finance management and is therefore strictly connected with a company's finances. Financial insurance provides protection when a counterparty is unable to meet its financial commitments. The Appendix to the Act of law of 22 May 2003 on insurance activity defined financial insurance as consisting of three classes:

- Class 14 – Credit Insurance, including: general insolvency, export credit, repayment of installments, mortgage credit, agricultural credit.
- Class 15 – Suretyship: direct¹ and indirect².
- Class 16 – Insurance of various financial risks³, including: employment risk, insufficiency of income, bad weather, loss of benefits, continuing general expenses, unforeseen trading expenses, loss of market value, loss of regular source of income, indirect trading losses other than those mentioned above, other forms of financial loss.

In practice we come across two depictions of financial insurance: one is narrow and includes: insurance of credit (class 14) and shuretyships (class 15). This division stems

¹ Unnamed liability ratio according to which the guarantor is obliged to fulfill the specific cash benefit, if the beneficiary submits a payment request when the principal doesn't fulfill a commitment been guaranteed for.

² Unnamed liability ratio, according to which the (re) guarantor is obliged to fulfill a specific value cash benefit, if the beneficiary (other guarantor) submits a payment request to the guarantee in its favour.

³ Aims at insuring against the risk of a sudden unplanned withdrawal of big sums of money or an unexpected decrease in income. It is also defined as an instrument of protection against an unfavourable course of economic processes.

from the belief that financial insurance limits risk from the exchange of credit between business entities. Credit insurance and shuretyships both protect businesses from losses resulting from improper behaviour of counterparties; with credit insurance, insurance companies assume the risk of losses from financially unreliable debtors, whereas within the guarantee activity, insurance companies guarantee the performance of specific commitments of one business entity toward another. The second description is wider than the first one and consists of: credit insurance (class 14), shuretyships (class 15) and insurance of various financial risks (class 16) [Wierzbicka 2007].

Within financial insurance we can distinguish two basic forms of insurance protection: insurance contract and contract of shuretyship. With credit transactions two forms of insurance contract are possible [articles 805–834 of the Civil Code]. One is based on the contract being awarded by the creditor and the insurance company. In this case the creditor⁴ owns an insurance business and insures the risk of non-performance or improper performance of benefits by the debtor. However, when applying the second, less common form, the insurance contract is awarded by the debtor in favour of the creditor; that is, by the entity that does not bear risk in favour of the entity that owns an insurance business [Bera 2005; article 808 of Act of law of the Civil Code].

The guarantee agreement in Polish law, has not been regulated in detail yet. It is an unnamed contract. Therefore the possibility of awarding it stems from the rule of freedom of contract – included in article 353 of the Act of law of the Civil Code (CC), and general provisions on civil law can be applied to it.

Polish law allows insurance companies to award non-life suretyships if the insurance companies have permission within class 15, Branch II⁵. The provisions of the Civil Code do not apply to shuretyship. However, the provisions of the Act on insurance activities apply when stating the governing law for a given contract. The rights and duties of the parties to the contract on shuretyship result from the general provisions of the Civil Code on contractual obligations. It should be stressed that this insurance activity is developed mainly by practice, with a legal basis on the rule of freedom of contractual relationships settlement [article 353 (1) of Act of law of the Civil Code].

The guarantee activity carried out by insurance companies does not include signing insurance contracts. It is merely a financial service performed by insurers on the basis of regulations and, as regards its legal construction, is completely different from the activity of concluding insurance contracts. Legislators explain the term of insurance activity as performing insurance activities connected with offering and giving protection when there is risk of aftermath from life events.

THE ROLE OF THE FINANCIAL INSURANCE SECTOR

Everyone can be affected by periods of economic slowdown. Financial insurance plays one of the most important elements enhancing market stability. It allows businesses to go through the period of economic slowdown with the fewest possible losses. In Po-

⁴ Can be: goods supplier with an adjourned maturity date, lessor, bank granting credit.

⁵ Or permission in the relevant scope issued by the relevant body of the EEA Member State.

land the phrase “financial insurance” has been used since the beginning of the 1990s. It is difficult, however, to find an unambiguous definition of this particular insurance, also because the name “financial insurance” cannot be found in any legal regulations. Such insurance differs from others in that there is a different source of risk stemming from economic processes and from market conditions, with which every business entity deals. The insurance coverage encompasses the processes connected with the finances of market entities, which are the main cause of risk [Kukielka, Poniewierka 2003].

An aspect which causes some concern is the issuing of credit. Mainly, it is the uncertainty whether debtors will meet their commitments and whether they are regulated at all. In these situations, shuretyships cover property losses of debtors, as specified in the insurance contract for the credit granted.

Another crucial aspect of financial insurance is the attitude to risk. Insurance contracts are usually individual in nature because they concern a particular business entity and particular financial transactions. Therefore, the financial insurance contract is not only adapted to the needs of individual clients, but it is the result of a compromise between the insurer and the client. The compromise follows from a thorough evaluation of the risk. Diagnosing, identifying and evaluating risk are the basis of the actions taken to manage and limit risk. In economic practice there is a mechanism of financing risk. Such financing can be internal (covering losses from one’s own sources) or external (transfer of risk to the insurer by signing an insurance contract).

The fact that risk analysis is done not only prior to the signing of the contract, but also following it, is an important element in financial insurance. The insurer manages risk by monitoring it and reacting to any changes, and by analyzing the contracts signed by the insured with the recipients throughout the period of insurance.

With financial insurance the insurance company is entitled to recourse, and they frequently, claim those rights. In this field, there are many more cases of recourse than with other types of property insurance.

In financial insurance there are normally no tariff premiums. The price for insurance – the premium – is calculated individually depending on the evaluation of risk that the insurer makes, the length of insurance coverage and its scope. In financial insurance the influence of other types of property insurance on making decisions to offer insurance is avoided. There is a certain limit of risk capacity, above which there is no admission to insurance coverage. There is no possibility to apply the rule “higher risk, higher rate” here. Financial insurance providers have autonomy in decision-making.

Financial insurance is offered by specialized insurance companies. This is connected with the strict requirements that need to be fulfilled in order to effectively and safely operate such a business⁶. Companies dealing with financial insurance have access to large data bases concerning economic entities, the possibility to use internal databases (for example,

⁶ The requirements are mostly:

- An effective system of collecting, working out and storing of economic information (about particular countries, economic branches, companies),
- The ability to assess economic risk, which, consequently, makes the role of an insurer closer to the role of a bank assessing the risk of granting credit; working out a method of reacting to the threats of economic entities’ insolvency,
- An effective system of debt collection.

economic information agencies), and systems of information exchange with other entities (banks, other credit insurance companies). They also have procedures for reacting to dangers and an effective system of debt collection.

Financial insurance (especially credit insurance) plays a fundamental role in the market economy. It has a preventative function – help given by the insurer to the creditor, mutual risk evaluation, and professional counseling. Thanks to the compensative function of financial insurance, the insolvency of one debtor does not cause loss of liquidity for the creditor. Next, a stimulative function is manifested by increasing the credibility and attractiveness of the insured creditors. The last function – service function – is executed by taking over debt collection by the insurer [Bera 2005; Grębowiec, Kruk 2010].

STRUCTURE OF FINANCIAL INSURANCE SECTOR

In 2009, the value of the gross written premium⁷ in the section of non-life insurance reached the level of 20 617 million PLN. Dynamics of total gross written premium amounted to 141.54% as compared to 2004 (assuming the year 2004 to be 100%). Financial insurance underwent rapid development. The share of financial insurance increased from 4.43% in 2004 to 7.78% in 2009 – Graph 1. In 2009, the dynamics of the gross written premium of this tape of insurance reached 248.77% as compared to 2004 (assuming the year 2004 to be 100%). The highest share in the section of non-life insurance was shown by gross written premium linked to transport (motor) insurance. It reached the level of around 60% with decreasing tendency during analysed years (class 3 and class 10) [Kozak 2011].

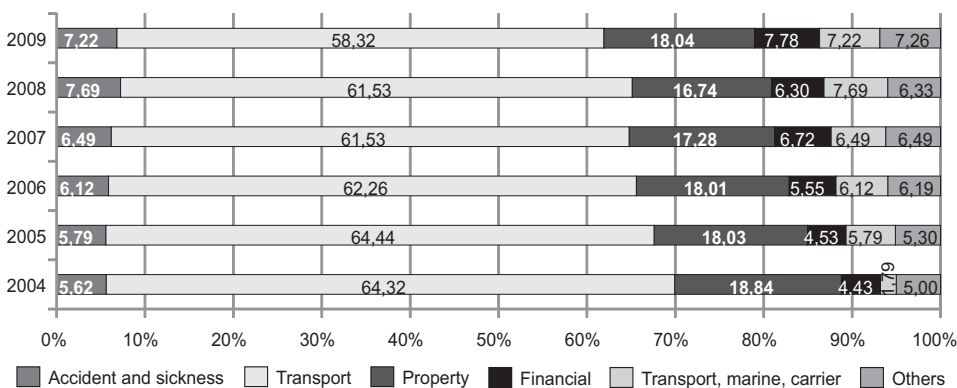


Fig. 1. Structure of Branch II of Polish insurance market – gross written premium (%)

Rys. 1. Struktura Działu II Polskiego rynku ubezpieczeniowego – składka przypisana brutto (%)

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

⁷ Gross written premium – amounts of gross premiums due to account of insurance contracts concluded within the reporting period, regardless of whether the amounts have been paid.

In 2009, 32 companies offered financial insurance. Most of them were joint-stock companies and offered all kinds of financial insurance (class 14 – credit insurance, class 15 – shuretyship and class 16 – insurance of various financial risks). The most popular type of financial insurance offered was class 16 (See Table 1).

Table 1. Number of Financial Insurance Companies According to Insurance Business Conducted in 2004–2009

Tabela 1. Liczba zakładów ubezpieczeń finansowych według prowadzonej działalności w latach 2004–2009

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	18	20	20	21	17	18
Class 15. Shuretyship	21	24	22	24	22	23
Class 16. Insurance of various financial risks	24	27	25	29	30	30

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

Table 2 presents the number of policies⁸ awarded to particular entities by insurance category. In 2004, most policies awarded were class 16, bought by enterprises. They constituted 67.8 % of all financial insurance policies. The same applied to purchases of class 14 and class 15 policies. In 2004, more than 398 437 class 16 policies were awarded, out of which 99.2 % were policies purchased by enterprises. Natural persons, as well as other entities constituted a only insignificant percentage among insurance buyers.

Table 2. Financial insurance – Number of policies – kinds of insurance by policyholders in Poland in years 2004–2009

Tabela 2. Ubezpieczenia finansowe – Liczba polis wg rodzaju posiadacza polisy w Polsce latach 2004–2009

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	161 452	11 693	72 211	120 700	82 148	73 368
Natural persons	1 469	911	231	73	58	51
Enterprises	159 807	10 774	71 972	120 619	82 066	73 309
Other entities	176	8	8	8	24	8
Class 15. Shuretyship	64 651	70 247	70 422	79 816	127 721	424 799
Natural persons	4 038	1 985	1 213	5 309	39 237	183 535
Enterprises	56 819	63 326	61 652	65 634	78 602	230 449
Other entities	3 794	4 936	7 557	8 873	9 882	10 815
Class 16. Insurance of various financial risks	398 437	23 015	38 664	61 813	195 245	360 888
Natural persons	1 910	12 482	14 834	22 057	34 795	45 660
Enterprises	395 258	10 270	23 492	39 325	160 036	314 805
Other entities	1 269	263	338	431	414	423
Total Financial Insurance	624 540	104 955	181 297	262 329	405 114	859 055

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

⁸ Number of policies – number of all active policies at the end of the reporting period.

In 2009, the number of financial insurance policies was over 859 000. In comparison with 2004, a 37,55% increase can be observed (assuming the year 2004 to be 100%). In years 2004–2009 the biggest increase, six-fold, occurred in class 15. In the same time the number of contracts of class 14 insurance was reduced by 54.56 %. This was a result of the financial crisis taking place in 2008, which severely affected the insurance sector, as it did many others. In that year, the number of investments slumped and, consequently, the amount of credit borrowed did too, which is reflected in the decrease of class 14 insurance policies. The financial crisis also explains the big increase in the number of class 16 policies. The economy was seen as unstable, and unpredictable, hence business entities as well as natural persons secured themselves against losses. The tendency continued in 2009 – though there was a decrease in the overall number of policies awarded, there was a significant increase in contracts insuring various types of risk.

The gross written premium in total financial insurance (for classes 14, 15 and 16) in 2004 was 644,86 million PLN. The biggest part of the premium was various financial risks insurance, whereas the smallest – shuretyships. In the following years, a different situation could be observed – the smallest income was noted from premiums for shuretyships and the biggest – credit insurance. In 2008 the proportions again changed in favour of class 16, which formed the highest income of the gross written premium (544,21 million PLN). Income from credit insurance premiums took second place. The following year brought a 60% increase in the gross written premium coming from insuring different types of financial risk, but also a 7% decrease in the value of credit insurance premium compared to the previous year. However, generally throughout the analysed years, a evident growth can be observed. In 2009 the value of the gross written premium for classes 14, 15 and 16 was 148.77% bigger compared to 2004 (See Table 3).

Table 3. Financial Insurance – gross written premium by classes of insurance in Poland in years 2004–2009 (million PLN)

Tabela 3. Ubezpieczenia finansowe – składka przypisana brutto w podziale na grupy ubezpieczeń w Polsce w latach 2004–2009 (mln PLN)

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	260,84	315,42	445,46	567,23	491,99	460,10
Class 15. Shuretyship	120,60	136,12	150,24	187,02	214,97	277,30
Class 16. Insurance of various financial risks	263,42	242,88	295,17	440,39	544,21	866,82
Total Financial Insurance	644,86	694,42	890,88	1 194,64	1 251,18	1 604,22

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

The structure of gross claims paid⁹ in Branch II of non-life insurance in the years 2004–2009 is presented in Graph 2. Gross claims paid in financial insurance constitutes a slight share in the total non-life gross claims paid. The share of gross claim paid of financial insurance rose from 1.31% in 2004 to 2.68% in 2009.

⁹ Gross claims paid – claims before taking into account the share of reinsurers.

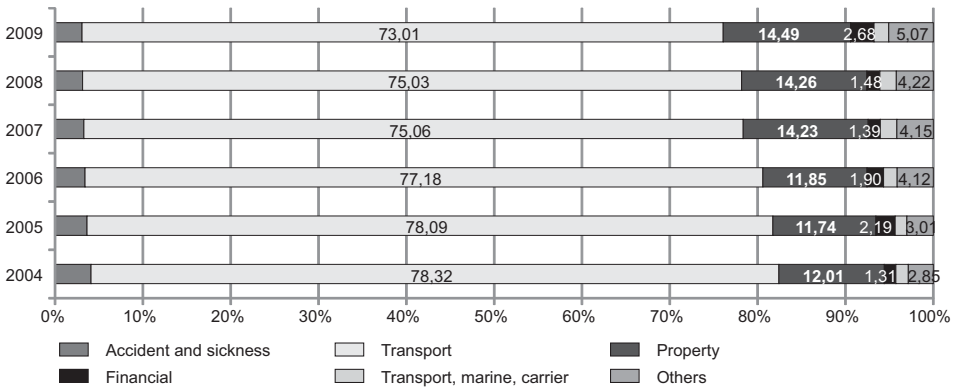


Fig. 2. Structure of Branch II of Polish insurance market – gross claims paid (%)

Rys. 2. Struktura Działu II Polskiego rynku ubezpieczeniowego – wypłacone odszkodowania brutto (%)

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

Throughout the analysed years the number of paid claims¹⁰ and the value of gross claims paid for financial insurance systematically increased (See Table 4 and Table 5). The number and gross claims paid in the years 2004–2008 were on a relatively low level compared with the income from premiums. The situation changed in 2009, when the value of gross claims paid from credit insurance increased by 139% ; from shuretyships it nearly doubled (+182%), and the value of gross claims paid from class 16 insurance increased by 47% compared to 2008. This is an evident effect of losses incurred as a result of the financial crisis of 2008. In that year, there was a significant increase in the loss ratio, which is the proportion of claims with the change in provision for claims outstanding to the earned premiums.

Throughout the analysed years the net operating expenses¹¹ reach highest levels in the case of class 16 – the insurance of different types of risk. The costs of insurance related to class 16 activity systematically increased from 52,78 million PLN in 2004 to 425,88 million PLN in 2009. The lowest level of the net operating expenses was noted in class 15 – shuretyships. General the costs of financial insurance constitute about 1.2 % – classes 14 and 15 and about 5% – class 16 – of the total costs of activity in Branch II insurance. Analogous to the changes noted in the net – operating expenses, acquisition costs increased in class 16 and remained relatively stable for classes 14 and 15. This was caused by an increase in the importance of class 16 insurance and by a great increase in the number of insurance policies for different risk types. In 2009, the acquisition costs ratio shaped at the level of 43.19% in respect of insurance of various financial risks, the level of 19.4% and 17.92% in respect of credit insurance and shuretyship (See Table 6 and Table 7).

¹⁰ Number of paid claims – number of amounts paid by the insurers in connection with the ensuing event covered with a bought insurance. This including the number of payments in a calendar year.

¹¹ Net operating expenses – sum of acquisition costs and administrative expenses reduced by reinsurance commission and profit participation.

Table 4. Financial insurance – gross claims paid in Poland in years 2004–2009 (million PLN)
Tabela 4. Ubezpieczenia finansowe – odszkodowania i świadczenia wypłacone brutto w Polsce w latach 2004–2009 (mln PLN)

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	40,12	74,60	65,34	55,11	86,81	207,95
Class 15. Shuretyship	30,16	48,86	56,78	18,39	21,05	59,35
Class 16. Insurance of various financial risks	35,03	53,37	33,94	51,32	40,22	59,12
Financial Insurance	105,30	176,83	156,06	124,81	148,09	326,42

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

Table 5. Financial insurance – number of paid claims – kinds of insurance by policyholders in Poland in years 2004–2009

Tabela 5. Ubezpieczenia finansowe – liczba wypłat wg rodzaju posiadacza polisy w Polsce latach 2004–2009

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	4 042	2 191	2 641	2 395	2 540	6 150
Natural persons	2	2	1	5	1	6
Enterprises	4 030	2 183	2 627	2 389	2 531	5 891
Other entities	10	6	13	1	8	253
Class 15. Shuretyship	658	779	448	297	299	6 540
Natural persons	29	18	27	41	42	3 310
Enterprises	525	654	366	191	219	3 119
Other entities	104	107	55	65	38	111
Class 16. Insurance of various financial risks	3 218	1 435	1 862	2 346	4 014	16 285
Natural persons	1 131	657	1 089	1 074	1 186	2 957
Enterprises	2 086	775	770	1 270	2 813	13 328
Other entities	1	3	3	2	15	0
Total Financial Insurance	7 918	4 405	4 951	5 038	6 853	28 975

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

Table 6. Net – operating expenses of financial insurance in Poland in years 2004–2009 (million PLN)

Tabela 6. Koszty działalności ubezpieczeniowej ubezpieczeń finansowych w Polsce w latach 2004–2009 (mln PLN)

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	24,70	14,58	39,71	78,78	67,34	68,41
Class 15. Shuretyship	25,72	27,65	25,25	23,89	34,77	36,26
Class 16. Insurance of various financial risks	52,78	67,09	110,26	180,53	252,21	425,88
Total Financial Insurance	103,2	109,32	175,22	283,2	354,32	530,55

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

Table 7. Acquisition costs ratio* of financial insurance in Poland in years 2004–2009
Tabela 7. Wskaźnik kosztów akwizycji ubezpieczeń finansowych w Polsce w latach 2004–2009

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	13,88	9,60	8,76	12,60	17,24	19,40
Class 15. Shuretyship	18,21	16,53	16,69	13,41	16,62	17,92
Class 16. Insurance of Various Financial Risks	16,61	23,33	30,71	32,63	39,32	43,19

* Acquisition costs ratio – acquisition costs divided by the gross written premium.

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

Table 8. Balance on technical financial insurance account* in Poland in years 2004–2009 (millions PLN)

Tabela 8. Wynik techniczny rachunków ubezpieczeń finansowych w Polsce w latach 2004–2009 (mln PLN)

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit Insurance	51,07	59,86	65,31	98,21	140,78	78,81
Class 15. Shuretyship	27,32	19,49	11,71	42,52	48,38	36,04
Class 16. Insurance of Various Financial Risks	–0,19	0,58	37,14	18,04	27,41	–40,54
Total Financial Insurance	78,20	79,93	114,16	158,77	216,57	74,31

* Balance on technical financial insurance account – is the result form insurance activity before investment income.

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

Table 9. Profitability ratio of technical activity* of financial insurance in Poland in years 2004–2009

Tabela 9. Wskaźnik rentowności działalności technicznej ubezpieczeń finansowych w Polsce w latach 2004–2009

Specification	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Class 14. Credit insurance	19,58	18,98	14,66	17,31	28,61	17,13
Class 15. Shuretyship	22,65	14,32	7,79	22,74	22,50	12,96
Class 16. Insurance of Various Financial Risks	–0,07	0,24	12,58	4,10	5,04	–4,68

* Profitability ratio of technical activity – technical results divided by earned premiums minus net of reinsurance.

Source: Polish Insurance Market 2004–2010, Central Statistical Office, Warsaw 2010.

Źródło: Polski rynek ubezpieczeniowy 2004–2010, Główny Urząd Statystyczny, Warszawa 2010.

In years 2004–2009 the classes 14 and 15 had a positive technical result. Technical result of credit insurance showed a higher dynamics. Until 2008 increase can be observed in all classes of financial insurance. In 2009 in classes 14 and 15 the value of the technical result was significantly reduced, whereas class 16 brought a technical loss. This was a response to the financial crisis of 2008. It was also reflected in the index of

profitability, of gross technical activity, whose value for class 16 in 2009 was -4.68% (See Table 8 and Table 9).

CONCLUSION

From 2004–2009 there occurred several significant changes within the financial insurance sector. They can be summarized as follows:

- Throughout the six analysed years, the number of policies and gross premiums regarding financial insurance significantly increased. class 16 had the biggest share in the gross written premium (insurance of various financial risks).
- The number and gross claims paid in the years 2004–2008 were on a relatively low level compared to the income from premiums. As a result of the losses born after the financial crisis of 2008, this ratio changed in 2009 in favour of insurance from classes 15 and 16.
- Generally the costs of activity and acquisition costs increased in class 16 and remained relatively stable for classes 14 and 15.
- The financial crises had also influence on the financial insurance sector. This was reflected in significant reduction in the value of the technical result in classes 14 and 15, whereas class 16 brought a technical loss.

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ZNACZENIE I ROLA SEKTORA UBEZPIECZEŃ MAJĄTKOWYCH W POLSCE

Streszczenie. Ubezpieczenia finansowe odgrywają ważną rolę w gospodarce rynkowej. Pozwalają one firmom i osobom fizycznym przejść przez okres ekonomicznego spowolnienia z możliwie najmniejszymi stratami. Sektor ubezpieczeń finansowy, którego rozwój w Polsce przypada na lata 90, rozrósł się dynamicznie przez ostatnie lata.

Artykuł prezentuje rozwój i znaczenie rynku ubezpieczeń finansowych w Polsce w latach 2004–2009. Przeanalizowano wartość i strukturę ubezpieczeń finansowych według form ubezpieczeń i rodzaju posiadacza polisy. Przedstawiono zmiany wartości składki przypisanej brutto, wypłaconych odszkodowań brutto, wyniku technicznego i wybranych wskaźników ubezpieczeń finansowych. Równocześnie zaprezentowano prawne i teoretyczne aspekty funkcjonowania polskiego rynku ubezpieczeń finansowych. Dane na temat rozwoju sektora ubezpieczeń finansowych w Polsce zostały zaczerpnięte z materiałów Głównego Urzędu Statystycznego oraz Komisji Nadzoru Finansowego.

Słowa kluczowe: Ubezpieczenia finansowe, gwarancja, składka przypisana brutto, odszkodowania i świadczenia wypłacone brutto, wynik techniczny, wskaźnik rentowności działalności technicznej, wskaźnik kosztów akwizycji, koszty działalności ubezpieczeniowej

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