

# Social, economic and cultural conditions of differences in secondary school examination results

## Summary

The book presents analyses and interpretations of research on differences in secondary school examination results depending on socio-cultural and economic factors. Chapter One presents the directions in which the education system has changed during the systemic transformation in Poland. It justifies the creation of secondary schools (Gimnazjum), the principles underpinning this school and how their position was consolidated in the Polish education system. Issues related to the introduction of external examinations into Polish schooling and the role these play are discussed. The subsequent chapters present human resource problems related to changes in the education system, particularly social, cultural and economic capital. Theoretical considerations round off the important methodology chapter, in which research principles are presented in addition to an analysis and interpretation of research findings. The importance of the socio-cultural and economic capital of the local community as a determinant of secondary school pupils' examination results is emphasised. The theoretical discussion and research findings lead to numerous reflections and conclusions.

*Translated by Rob Pagett*