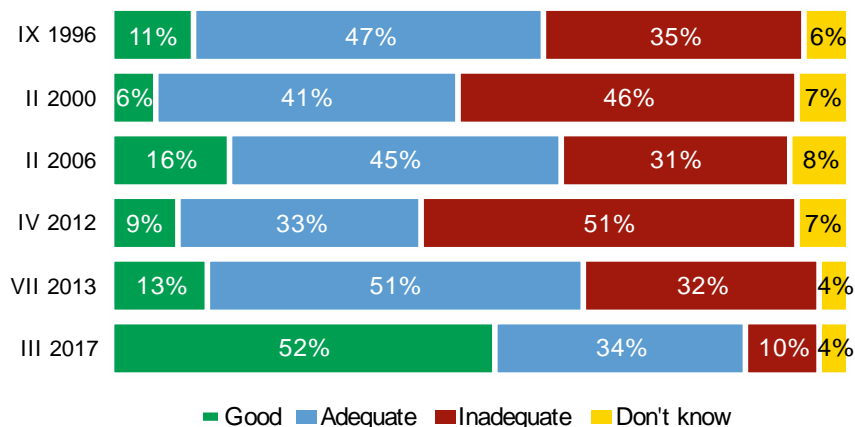


Opinions about the “Family 500+” programme one year after introduction

In April 2016, the „Family 500+” program was launched to provide financial support to families raising children and increase fertility in Poland. Families bringing up children under 18 receive a monthly childcare allowance of 500 PLN for the second and each subsequent child and the first child if the family income does not exceed 800 PLN per month per capita (or 1200 PLN for families with a disabled child) .

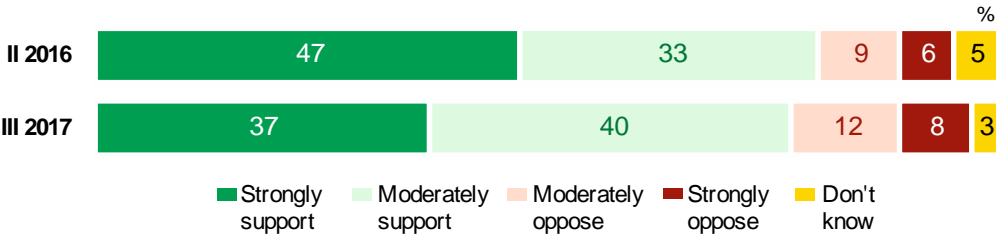
The introduction of the "Family 500+" programme has radically changed the perception of state policy towards the family. In previous studies conducted by CBOS from 1996 to 2013, the state family policy was assessed as adequate or even inadequate. At present, more than half of respondents (52%) consider it as good, in which every tenth thinks it is very good.

Evaluation of state policy towards family



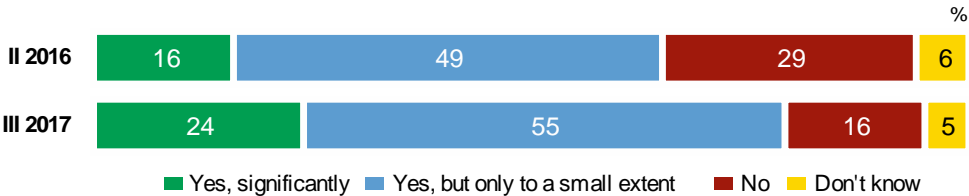
In February 2016, shortly before the introduction of the "Family 500+" programme, 80% of the respondents supported the introduction of the childcare benefit, while 15% of respondents were against. After almost a year of operation the support for it has decreased slightly and it is expressed less strongly. Still, the programme's acceptance rate remains very high (77%, with 20% disapproval), and its supporters prevail numerically in all socio-demographic groups analysed.

Do you support the programme “Family 500+”, i.e. the introduction of 500 PLN childcare benefit for every second and subsequent child up to the age 18 and for every child in low-income families?



The expectations regarding the effect of the "Family 500+" programme formulated before its entry into force were moderately optimistic. Respondents usually believed that the government programme would contribute to the increase in the number of births, but only to a small extent. Today, after almost a year of operation, the hopes related to its introduction have increased. The proportion of people who predict that the programme will not produce the expected results at all and will not affect the fertility rate has decreased from 29% to 16%, with corresponding increase in the expectation that it will significantly increase the birth rate (from 16% To 24%). Still, the majority of respondents (55%) are characterized by cautious optimism.

Will the introduction of the “Family 500+” programme contribute to the increase in the number of births in Poland?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: “Opinions about Family 500 Plus Programme after Nearly a Year since Introduction”, March 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: March 2017, N=1020. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.