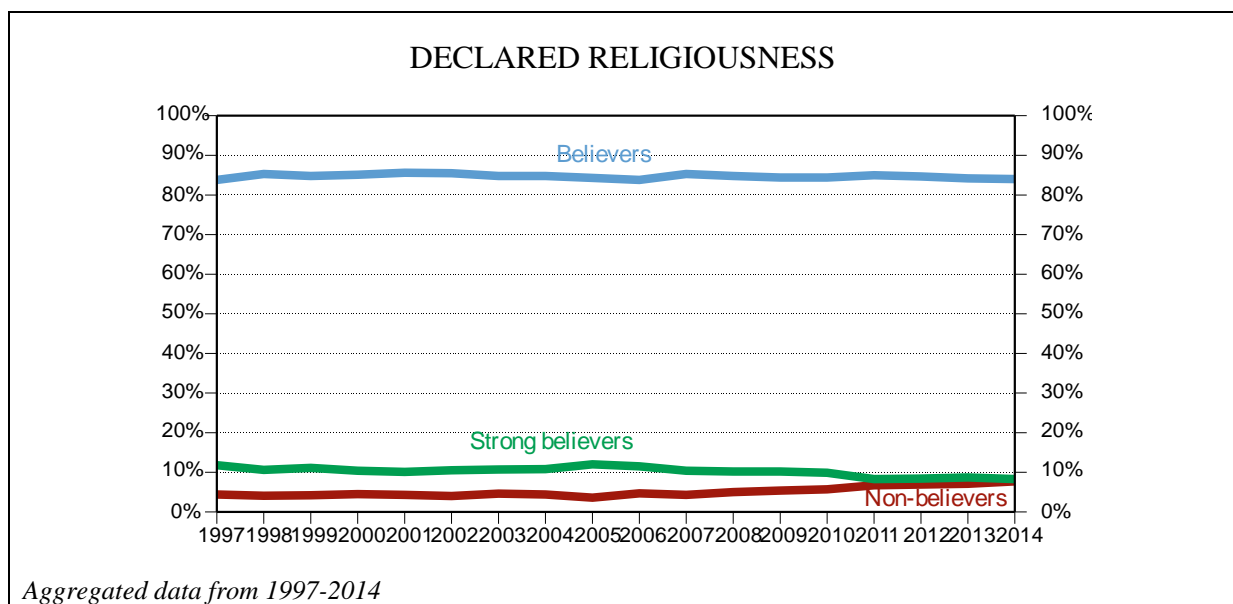
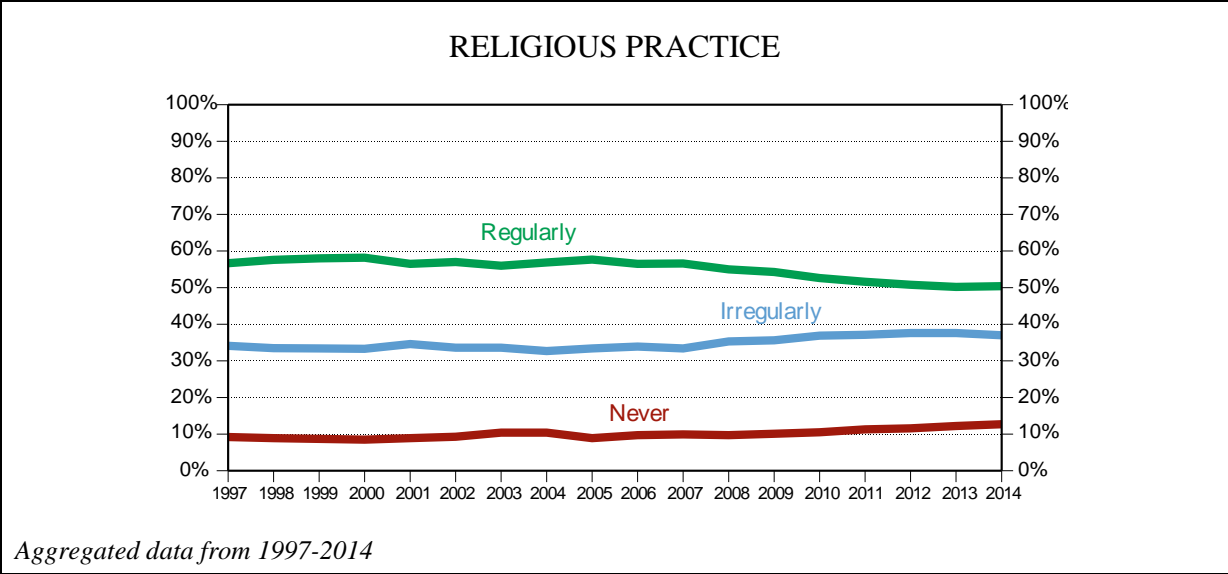


CHANGING RELIGIOSITY

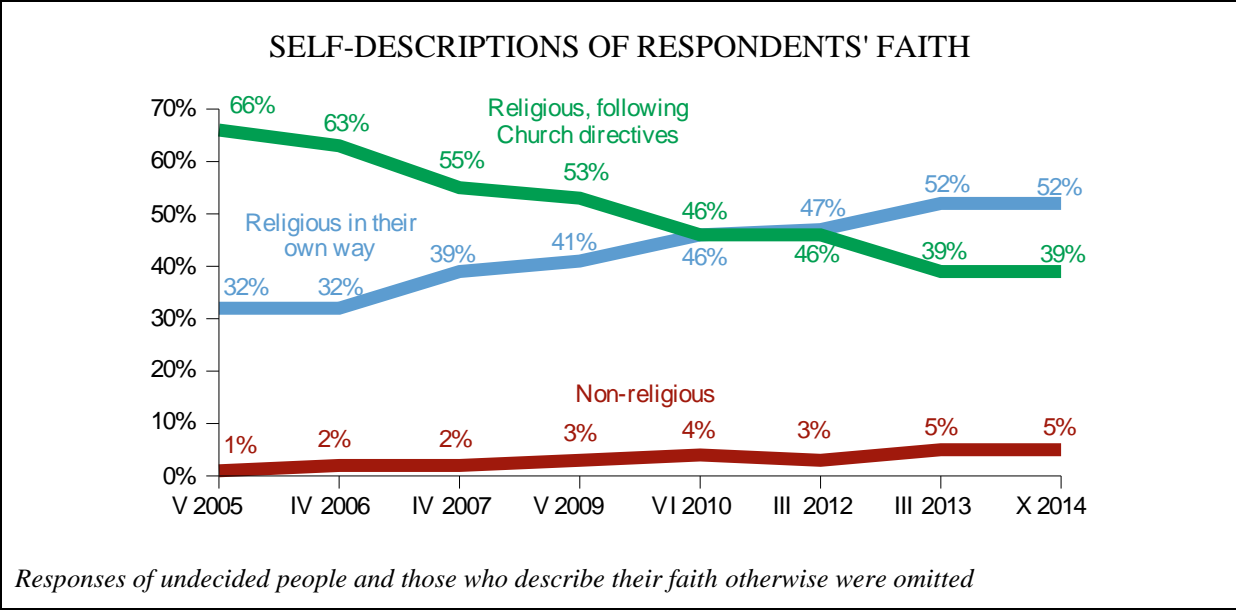
Universally declared belief in God is a durable attribute of Polish society. It has remained fairly stable in recent years. Systematic research shows that, since the end of 1990s, over 90% of respondents (from 92% to 97%) describe themselves as believers, among them one-tenth are strong believers. The proportion of people who identify themselves as partial or complete non-believers is relatively low (from 3% to 8%). It is noteworthy that since 2005, i.e. since the death of pope John Paul II, their number doubled from 4% to 8%. In the same period, the proportion of strong believers fell from 12% to 8%.



Similarly, religious practices were on a relatively stable level in the years 1997-2005, but declined after the death of John Paul II. Since 2005, the proportion of respondents who practice regularly, i.e. attend religious service at least once a week, fell from 58% to 50%, while the number of people who never do it rose from 9% to 13%.



Privatisation of religious faith, indicated by the growing number of people rarely or never attending religious service, is also reflected by other indicators. In the period May 2005-October 2014 the proportion of people who are religious according to the Church directives decreased from 66% to 39%, while the number of believers who are religious in their own way increased from 32% to 52%.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Changes in indicators of religiosity after the death of pope John Paul II", February 2015. Fieldwork from 1997 to 2014.