

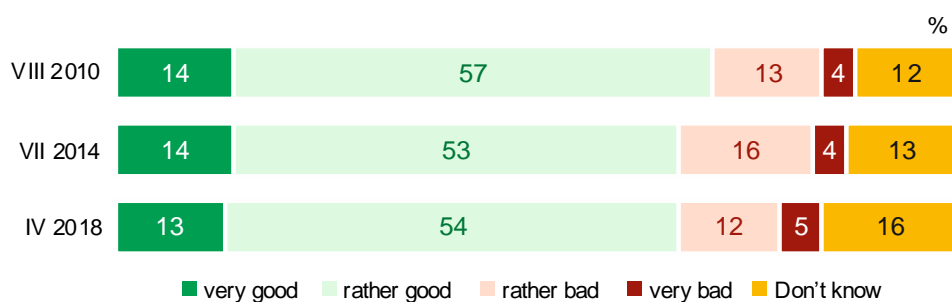
## Evaluation of local government and its competences

In the autumn, Poles will decide on the shape of local government in their places of residence in the next five years. They will decide about the composition of councils at various levels and choose mayors, making current local government accountable.

The vast majority of Poles positively assess current local government in their place of residence: their mayor and the city or commune council.

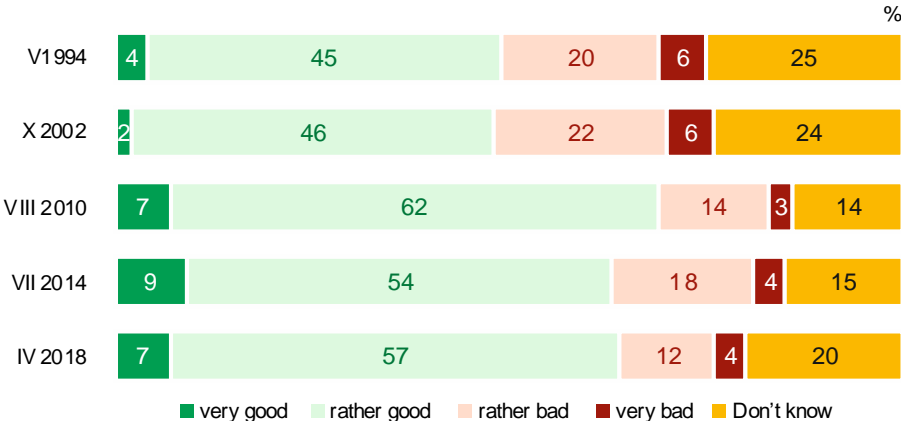
Over two-thirds of respondents (67%) are of the opinion that the current local government executive (mayor) works well, 17% are of the opposite opinion. From the perspective of several terms, it is clear that the assessment of the activities of mayors does not change much.

### In general, your opinion about the mayor of your commune / town is:



The work of councils of cities and communes is also positively evaluated: 64% of respondents think that the council is doing a good job, whereas 16% have a negative opinion. From the long-term perspective, dating back to the first half of the 1990s, there was a sharp improvement in evaluation of councils between 2002 and 2010. During this period, positive assessments of the activities of local government authorities (city and commune councils) increased by over 20 percentage points. Poland joined the EU in 2004 and EU funds began to flow into our country. They were largely used by local authorities, e.g. for the infrastructure of local communities, such as water supply, sewage treatment or local roads.

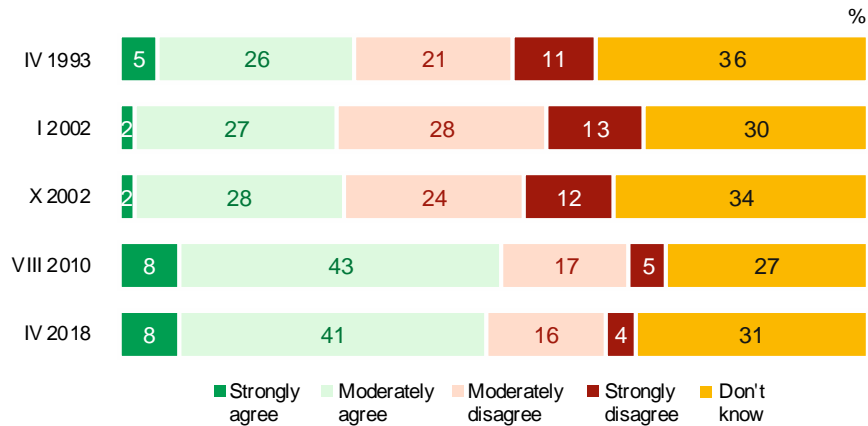
**In general, your opinion about your commune / town council is:**



Nearly half of respondents think that their city or commune authorities properly manage the financial resources at their disposal (49%). The opposite opinion on the financial management of their local governments is expressed by one fifth of respondents (20%).

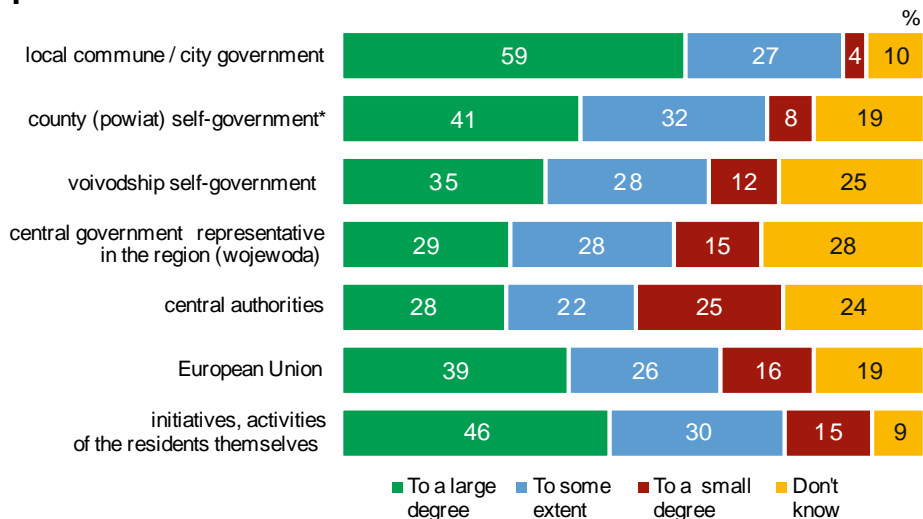
What is most striking in the long-term, in terms of financial spending there was a twenty-point increase in positive ratings and a slightly lower decrease in negative assessments between 2002 and 2010, during Poland's accession to the EU and the inflow of EU funds to local governments.

## Do you agree that money at the disposal of your local authorities is properly spent?



Poles are convinced that the local city or commune government decides most about the development of their place of residence. In their opinion, the activity and initiative of the citizens themselves, as well as the activities of the county (powiat) self-government are also relatively significant. Poles clearly see the importance of EU funds. According to respondents, the development of their towns depends more on the European Union than on the local representative of the central government (wojewoda), or on central authorities understood broadly.

## To what extent does the development of your place of residence and your nearest region depend on:



\* Question not asked to residents of towns with county rights

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Assessment of Local Authorities and Their Competences", June 2018. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2018, N=1140. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.