Annual balance of social moods

The pandemic caused a deterioration of public moods, visible mainly in opinions about the situation in the country. This deterioration applies to both evaluations and forecasts.

We registered very clear negative changes in the assessments and forecasts of the economic situation. At the beginning of the year, positive opinions were expressed much more often than the negative as regards the perception of the condition of the economy. The spring lockdown contributed to the deterioration of the opinion on the economic situation, but still positive opinions were stronger. Dissatisfaction began to prevail in the last quarter of the year. In the forecasts for the economic situation, in the first months of 2020 optimism prevailed. However, from August to December, concerns about the deterioration were invariably stronger than the hope for improvement in this respect.
Economic situation in Poland in 2020

Ratings: Mean on a five-point scale from -2 (very bad) to +2 (very good).
Forecasts: mean on a five-point scale from -2 (strong deterioration) to +2 (strong improvement).

In assessments of the political situation, as in previous years, dissatisfaction was articulated more strongly than satisfaction, but in 2020, and especially in the fourth quarter, criticism deepened. At the same time, concerns about a deterioration in the political situation grew.

Political situation in Poland in 2020.

Ratings: Mean on a five-point scale from -2 (very bad) to +2 (very good).
Forecasts: mean on a five-point scale from -2 (strong deterioration) to +2 (strong improvement).

The assessments concerning the private sphere also deteriorated, although less than in evaluations in the public sphere. Throughout the year, positive assessments of the standard of living and the situation in workplaces predominated. However, while for a significant part
of 2020 optimism was expressed more strongly than pessimism, in the last months of last year optimism decreased noticeably and fears of a deterioration increased.

**Situation in the workplace in 2020.**

![Graph showing changes in workplace optimism and pessimism over time.](image)

*Ratings:* Mean on a five-point scale from -2 (very bad) to +2 (very good).

*Forecasts:* Mean on a five-point scale from -2 (strong deterioration) to +2 (strong improvement).

**Material living conditions in 2020.**

![Graph showing changes in material living conditions over time.](image)

*Ratings:* Mean on a five-point scale from -2 (very bad) to +2 (very good).

*Forecasts:* Mean on a five-point scale from -2 (strong deterioration) to +2 (strong improvement).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: “Social Moods in 2020”, January 2021. Fieldwork for national samples: January-December 2020. The random samples are representative for adult population of Poland.