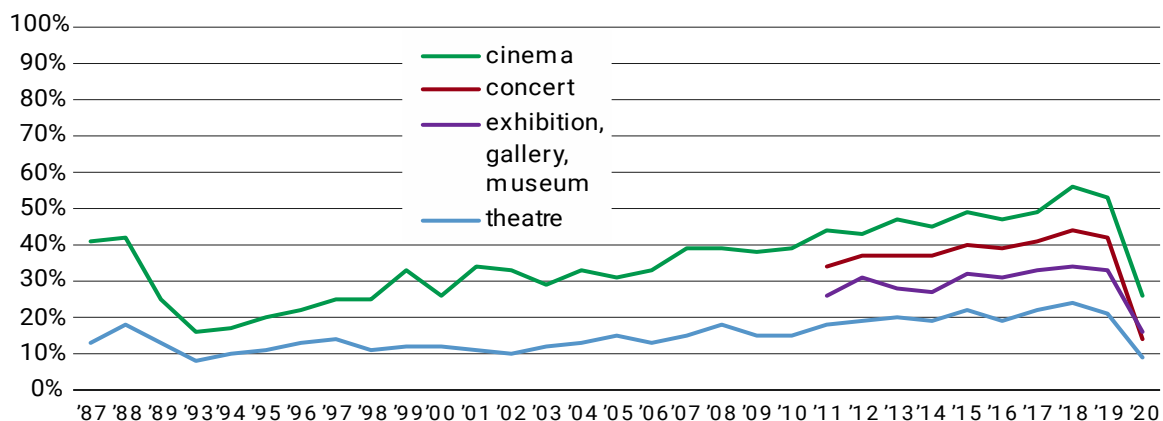


Activities and experiences of Poles in 2020

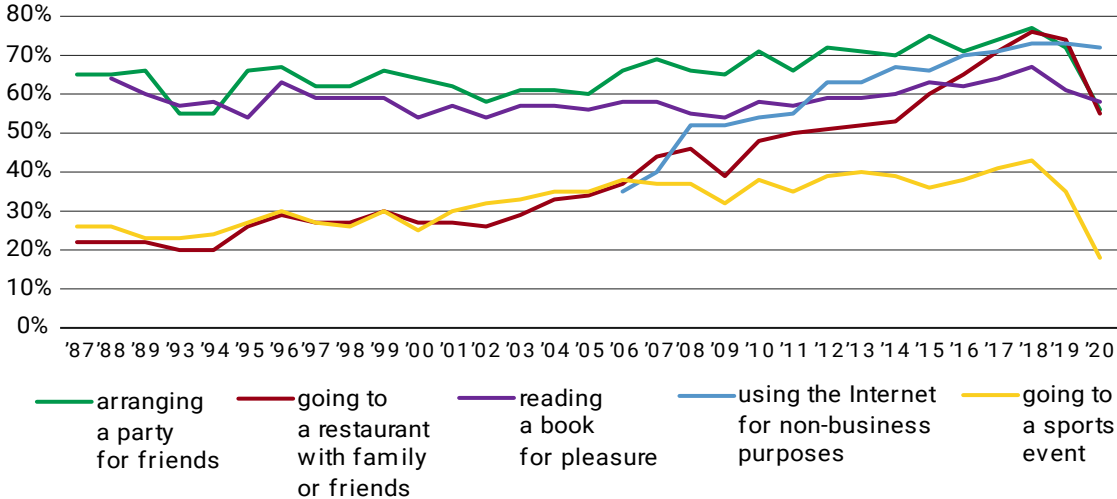
The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the related restrictions and limitations left their mark on almost all areas of activity of Polish people. The highest drops were recorded in the area of cultural activities. The most spectacular change concerns participation in concerts, as last year only 14% of respondents attended. This is a record decrease by 28 percentage points compared to 2019 and the lowest result of the last decade. Similarly, the percentage of Poles who went to the cinema last year decreased by 27 points (a decrease from 53% to 26%), and similar or lower results were last recorded in the 1990s. In 2020, only 16% of Poles went to the exhibition, to galleries or museums (a decrease by 17 percentage points), and 9% went to the theatre (a decrease by 12 percentage points).

Activities in a given year (participation at least once). Going to...



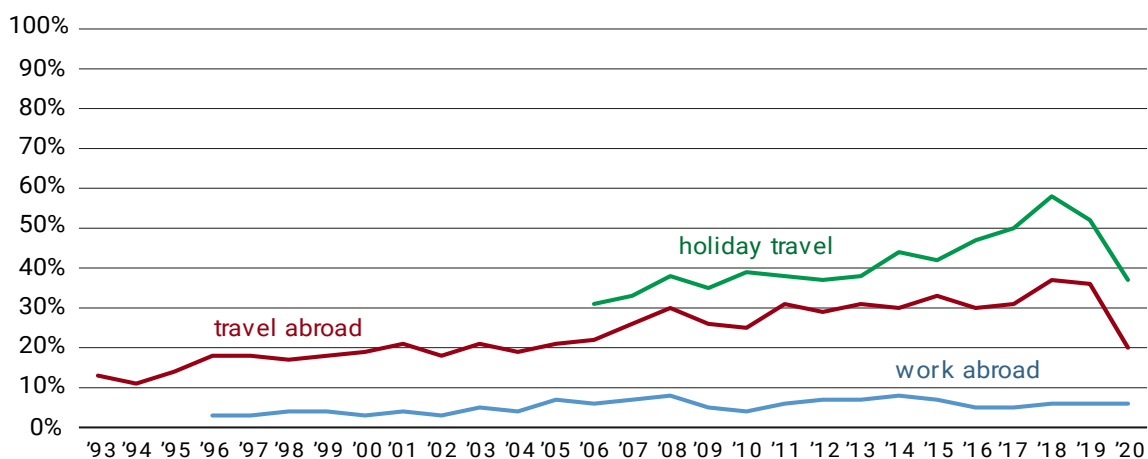
The impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on free time usage of Poles is also visible in other activities. We can see a significant decline in socializing with family or friends in a restaurant (55% went at least once, compared to 74% in the previous year), participation in a sports event (18% compared to 35% in 2019) or organizing parties for friends and acquaintances (56% compared to 72%). In this situation, one could expect an increase in activities which do not conflict with the sanitary regime. However, they remain at similar or even slightly lower levels than in 2019: 58% of Poles read at least one book for pleasure last year (compared to 61% in the previous year), and 72% used the Internet for non-business purposes (compared to 73% in 2019). Nevertheless, both of these forms of spending free time were among the top three of all activities included in the survey.

Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



The pandemic also significantly reduced the mobility of Poles, both inside and outside the country, and in this area of activity we also note significant declines. Fewer Poles went on vacation in 2020 (37% compared to 52% in the previous year), only one-fifth went abroad (20% compared to 36% in 2019). The percentage of people leaving for work abroad (6%) remains at an unchanged, low level, which has not changed much in the last 25 years.

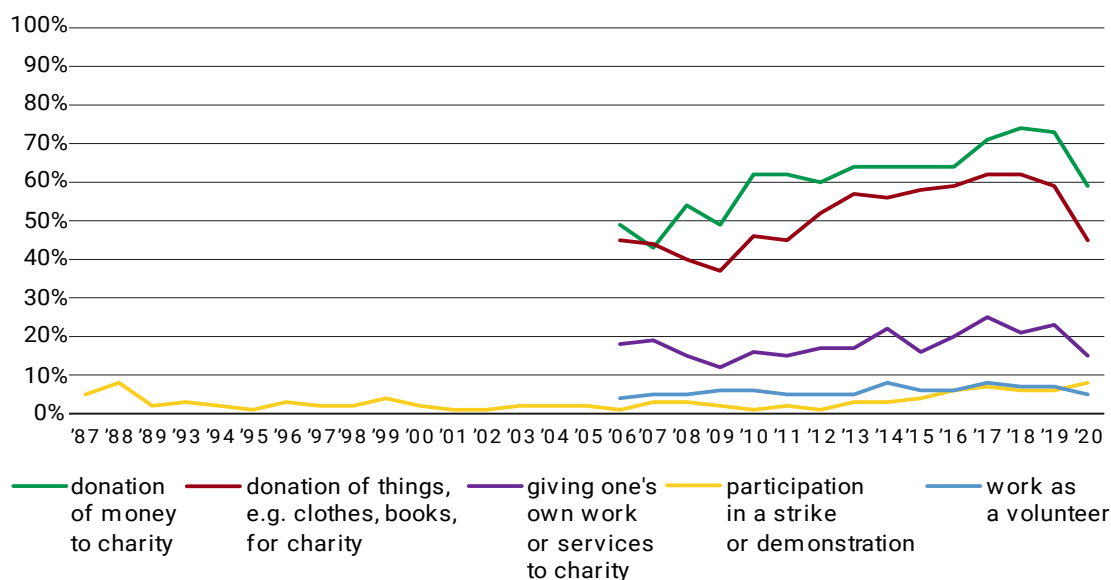
Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



The impact of the pandemic on the philanthropic activities of Poles is not so obvious, but here we can also observe a decline compared to 2019. The percentage of declared donations of both money (from 73% to 59%) and items such as clothes or books (from 59% to 45%) to charity decreased by 14 percentage points. A slight decrease was also visible in declarations of voluntary work (from 7% to 5%).

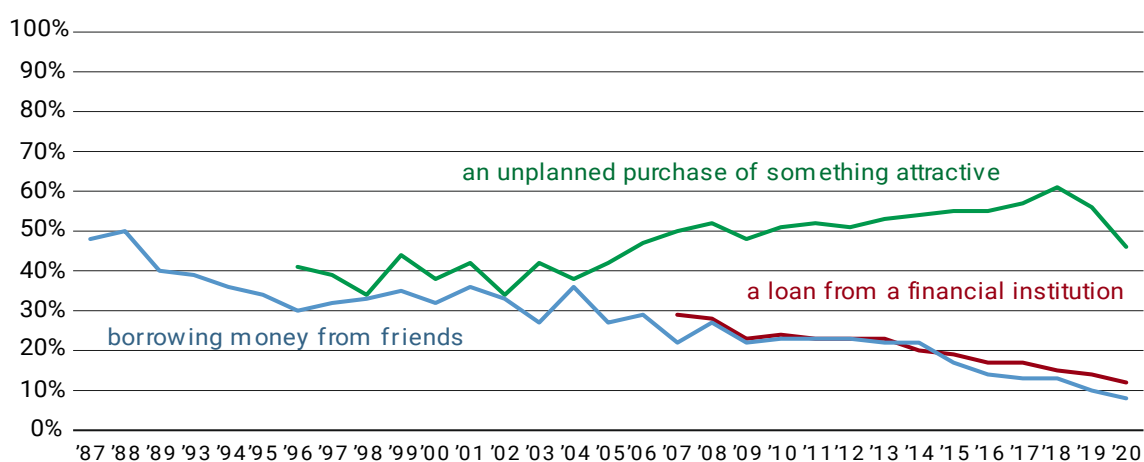
Despite the restrictions on assembly introduced due to the pandemic, the percentage of declarations of participation in strikes or demonstrations increased by 2 points (from 6% to 8%). This is the only area of activity of Poles for which we have observed an increase in 2020. This result corresponds to the CBOS data which showed that 8% of Poles participated in the autumn protests against the judgment of the Constitutional Tribunal questioning the constitutionality of the provisions on the legal admissibility of abortion due to severe and irreversible impairment of the foetus or irreversible disease threatening its life.

Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



In 2020, Poles were more cautious in managing their money. The percentage of people who bought something unforeseen and attractive at least once in the last 12 months decreased by 10 percentage points (from 56% in 2019 to 46% in 2020). The percentage of respondents who took out a loan from a bank or other financial institution decreased from 14% to 12%, and the proportion of people who borrowed money from friends also dropped in recent years (a decrease from 10% to 8%).

Activities in a given year (participation at least once):



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: “Activities and Experiences of Poles in 2020”, January 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2021, N=1150. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.