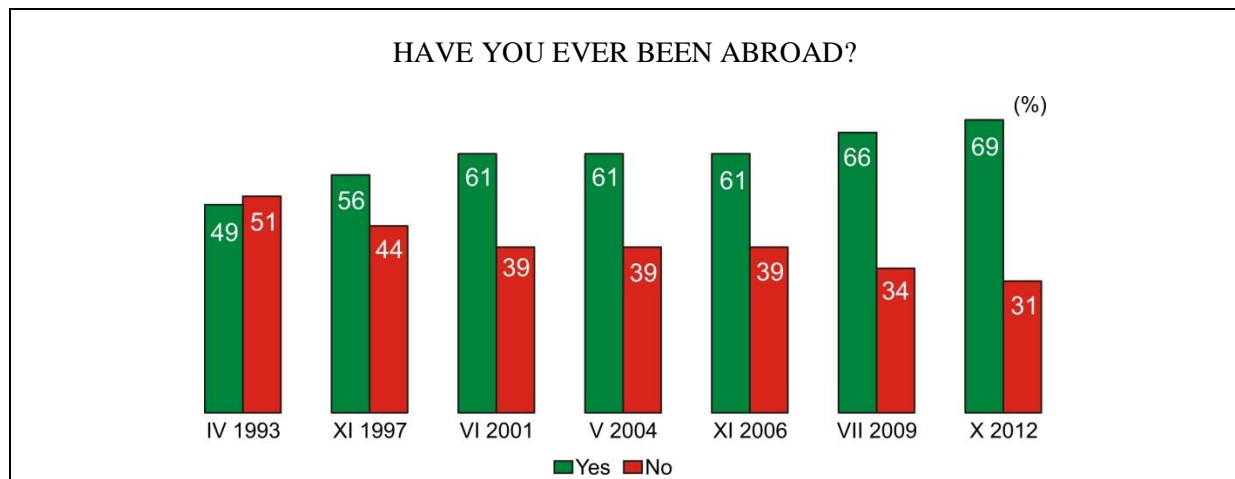


FOREIGN TRAVEL AND KNOWLEDGE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

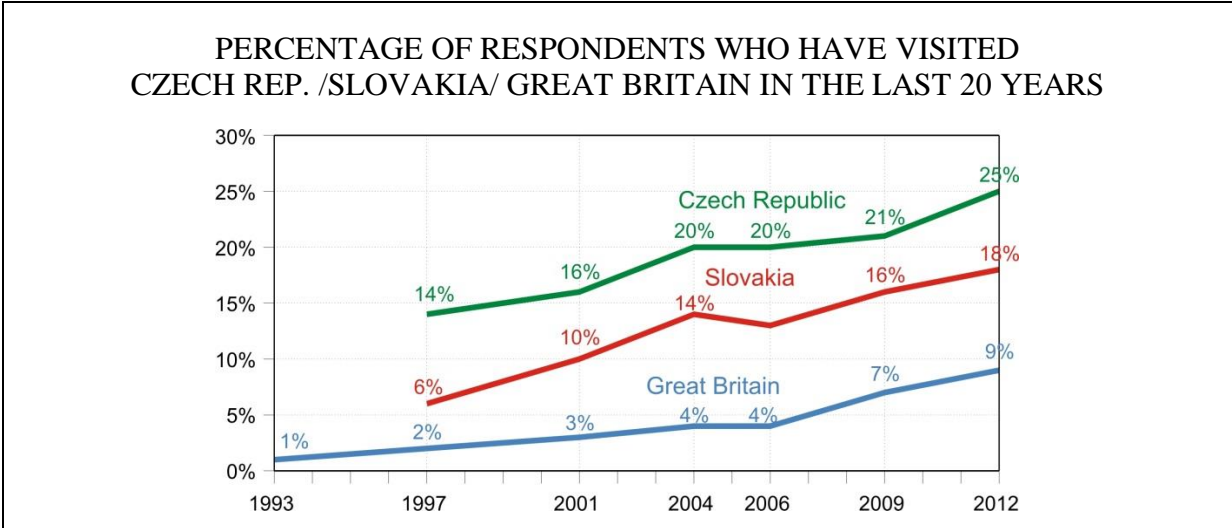
Foreign travel is becoming increasingly popular. It is made easy by low-cost airlines and a broad supply from travel agencies, offering foreign holidays at prices comparable with domestic travel. Foreign excursions often come with guaranteed sunshine, which for many tourists is an important component of satisfactory holiday. Another factor increasing foreign mobility is economic migration.

Since 1993, the proportion of people with experience of foreign travel has increased systematically (20 pct. points in total). At present, over two-thirds of Poles (69%) declare having been abroad at least once, while less than one-third (31%) have never left the country.



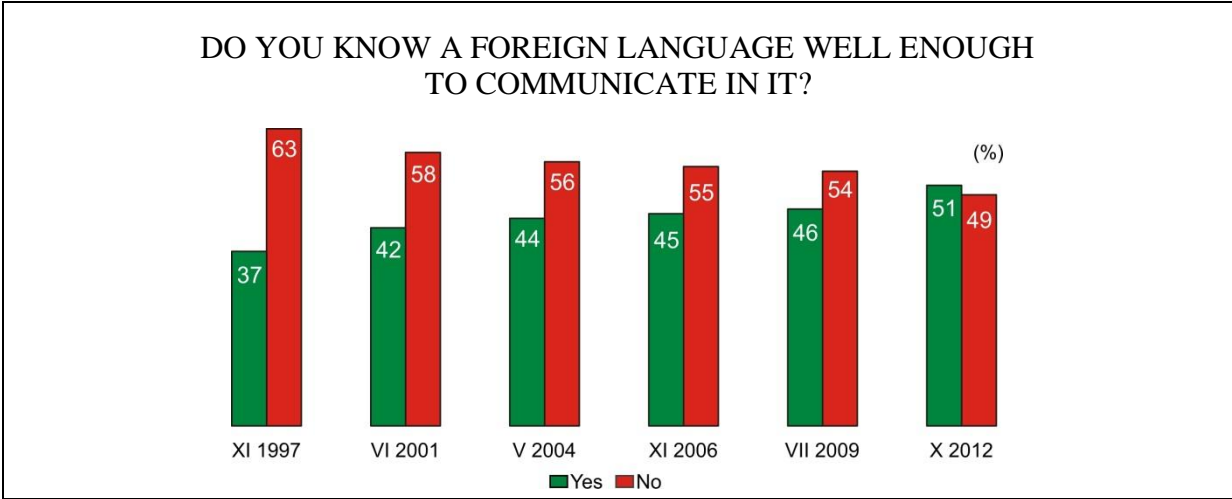
The most popular destinations do not change very much. The most commonly visited country is Germany: over one-third of respondents (36%) have been there in the last 20 years. Next are the Czech Republic (25%) and Slovakia (18%). The countries to the east of Poland are visited much less frequently: 6% have been to Ukraine, 3% went to Russia and Lithuania, and 2% visited Belarus.

Considering countries not bordering Poland, Italy remains the most popular, being the destination of 12% of respondents. Next in order are: Great Britain (9%), France (8%), Austria, Spain, Hungary (7% each), Greece, Netherlands, Croatia (6% each), and Sweden (5%). Other countries were mentioned only occasionally. Looking at the countries on top of the list, it can be noted that travel to Germany remains on the constant level, whereas the number of visitors to the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Great Britain has increased systematically.

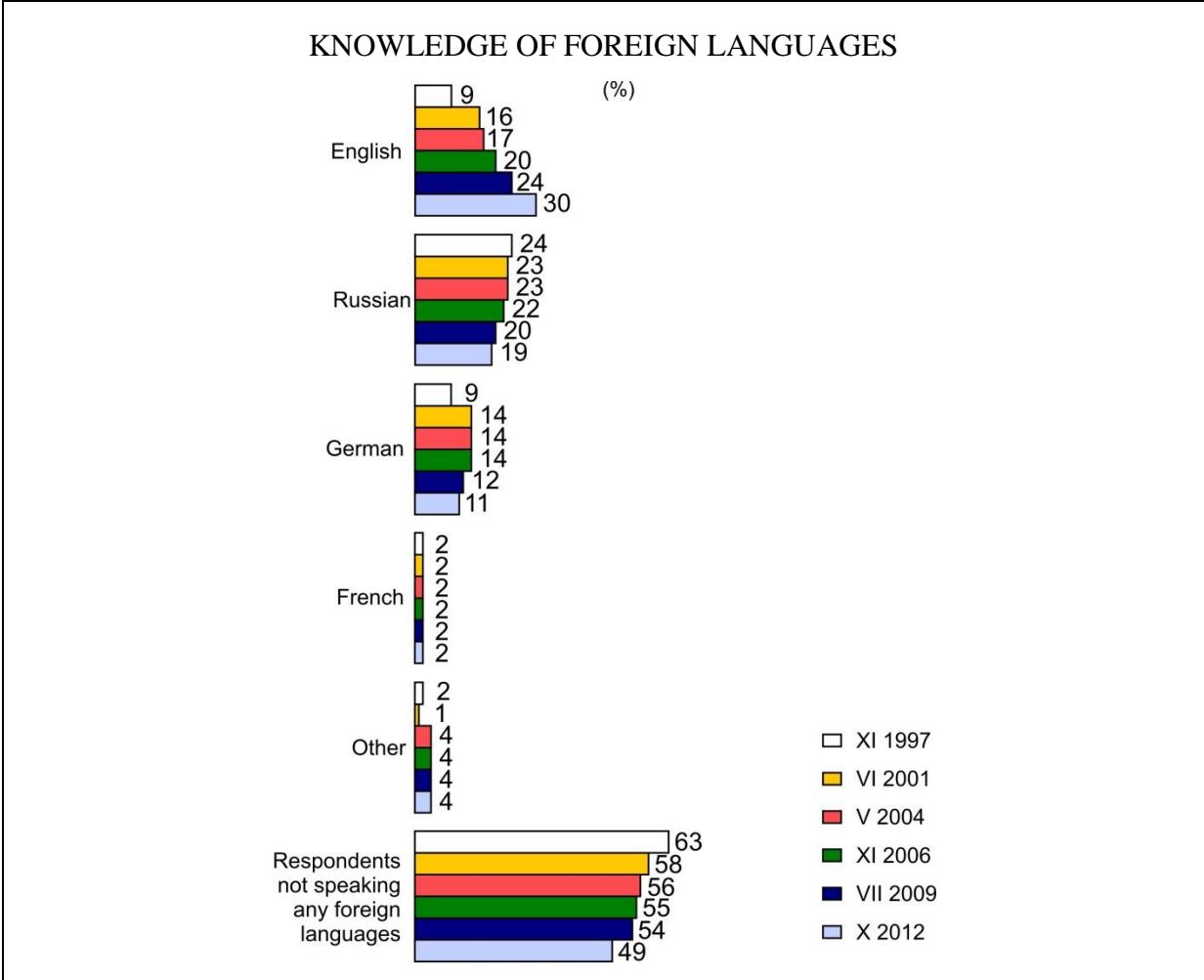


Other destinations increasing in popularity are the holiday spots offered by travel agencies: Spain (7% in the last survey), Greece (6%) Croatia (6%), Egypt (4%), Turkey (4%), and Tunisia (3%).

According to declarations, half of adult Poles (51%) can communicate in a foreign language. The proportion of people who have this skill increases systematically. Since 1997 it has increased by 14 pct. points, and in the last three years the percentage of foreign language speakers climbed from 46% to 51%.



English and Russian remain the most popular foreign languages. Until 2006, Russian was the most commonly mentioned, but since then English has overtaken it as the most commonly spoken foreign language. We can note a trend of increasing number of English speakers (since 1997 a 21-point increase) and a slight decline in the number of Russian speakers (since 1997 a 5-point drop). The level of knowledge of the other popular languages remains generally constant, with a slight drop in popularity of German since 2006.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Poles get to know the world: foreign travel and knowledge of foreign languages", November 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2012, N=1007. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.