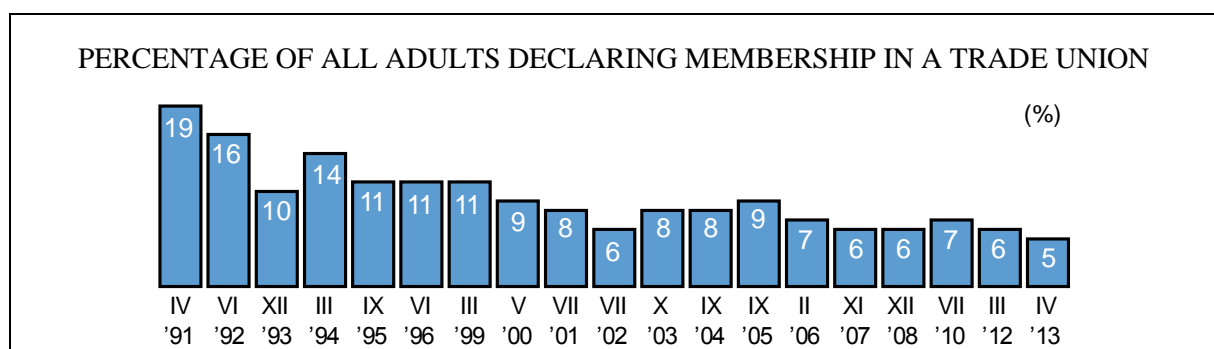
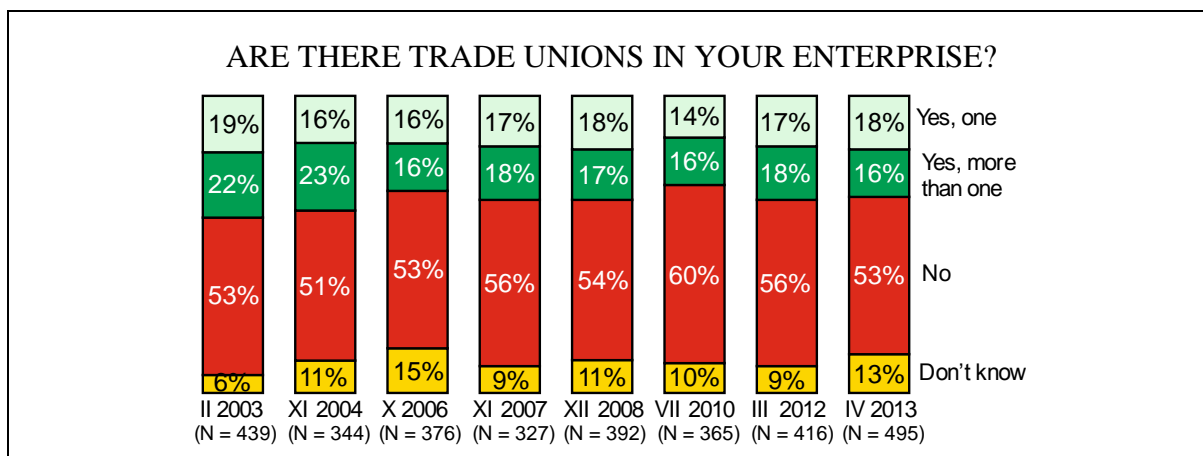


TRADE UNION MEMBERSHIP AND OPINIONS ABOUT THEIR ACTIVITIES

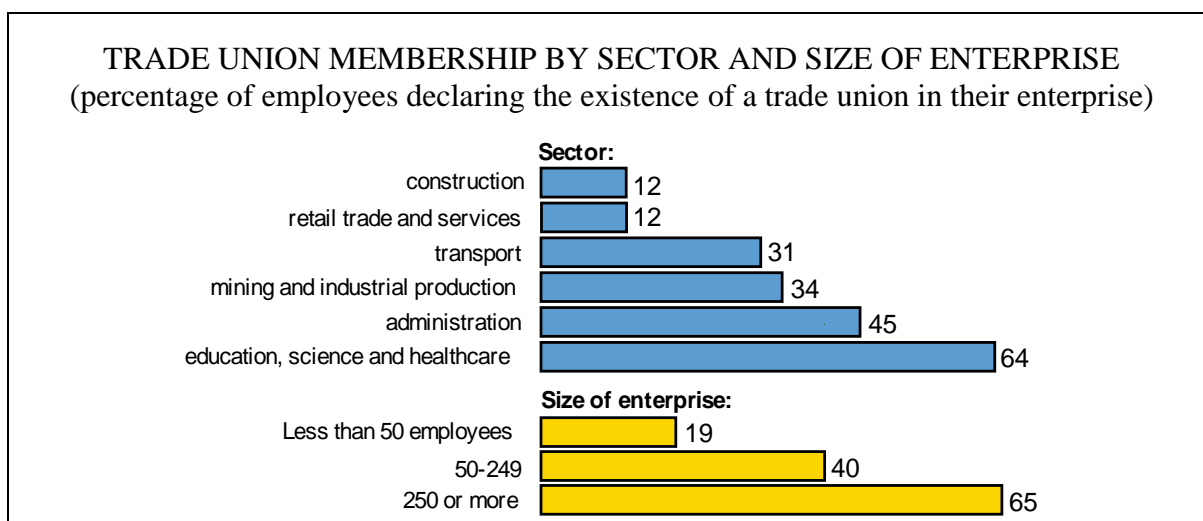
One in twenty Poles (5%), or one in ten employees (10%) declares membership in a trade union. Almost all of them are grouped in umbrella organizations, while membership in independent unions is marginal. At the beginning of the 1990s, one-fifth of all adults belonged to unions. In subsequent years, the number of members decreased by half. In the last decade it was constant, not exceeding 9%. The current rate is the lowest ever recorded. Membership in unions is low compared with other European countries.



Overall, about one-third of employees (34%) work in enterprises where a trade union is active.

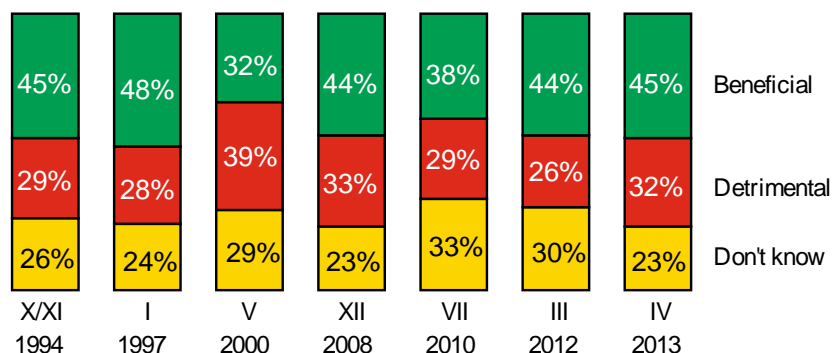


Trade unions are most frequently active in educational and scientific institutions, in healthcare and administration. They are less common in industrial production and transport. Unions exist only sporadically in construction and service sector. Based on the declarations, it can be concluded that state enterprises and public institutions have higher unionization rates than private companies, and big enterprises more often have unions than small ones (those employing up to 50 people).



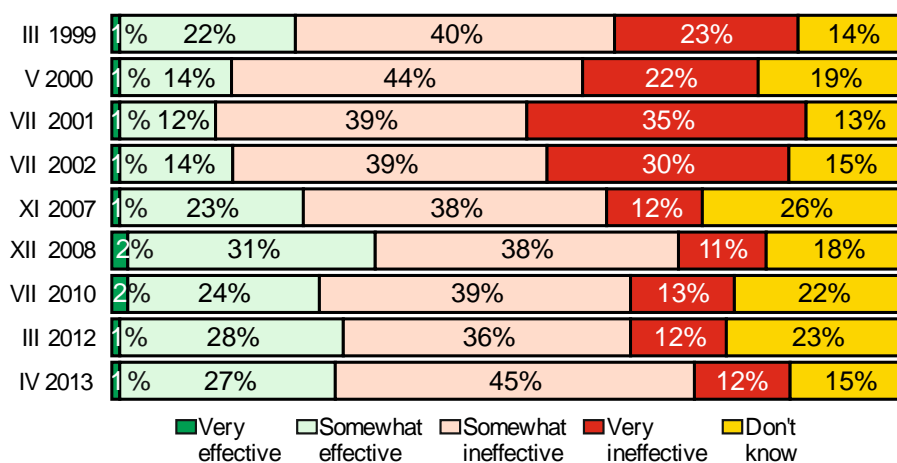
Regardless of their position on the labour market, Poles generally evaluate the activity of trade unions well. Over two-fifths (45%) think that it is beneficial for the country, while one-third (32%) express the opposite opinion. In the last year, the number of respondents critical about the influence of unions on the situation in the country has increased.

IS THE ACTIVITY OF TRADE UNIONS BENEFICIAL OR DETRIMENTAL FOR POLAND?



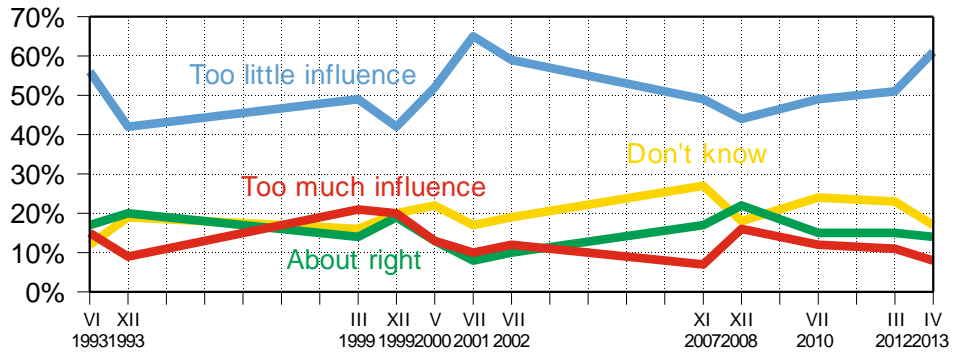
Unions are considered to be ineffective in defending employee interests. The majority of Poles (57%) do not see effects, while more than a quarter (28%) give positive evaluations. In the last year, the proportion of critical opinions about effectiveness of trade unions in defending employee interests has increased.

ARE TRADE UNIONS EFFECTIVE IN DEFENDING EMPLOYEE INTERESTS?



The majority of respondents (61%) believe that trade unions in Poland have too little influence on political decisions, while a small group (8%) think their influence is excessive. One-seventh of respondents (14%) consider the level of influence to be correct. It seems that in the last year expectations from trade unions have increased. The proportion of people considering the union influence to be too low is on the highest level in the last six years. It is on the level recorded at the beginning of the previous decade.

HOW DO YOU EVALUATE THE INFLUENCE OF TRADE UNIONS ON DECISIONS OF THE AUTHORITIES?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *"Membership in Trade Unions and Opinions About Their Work"*, May 2013. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2013, N=1150. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.