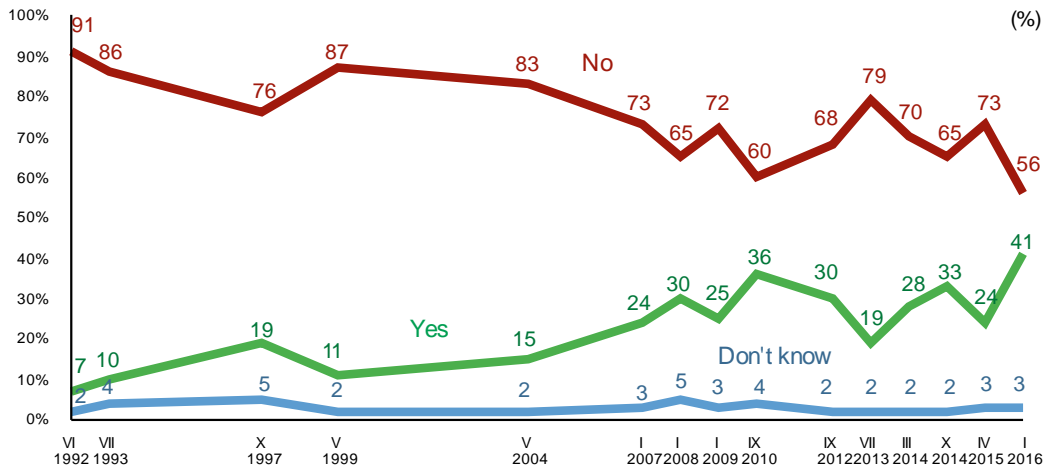


## **Socio-political activity of Poles**

Electoral victory of Law and Justice (PiS) in the October parliamentary elections, which meant that full executive power was located in the hands of one political grouping, and activity of its leader Jarosław Kaczyński, seen as controversial by many citizens, caused political emotions in the post-election time to rise, rather than cool. In December supporters and opponents of the current government organized demonstrations in Warsaw. Committee for Defence of Democracy (KOD), which grouped many circles opposed to the policies of current authorities, continued the protest action in January and announced institutionalisation of activities. The post-election conflict indicates the strength of socio-political and cultural divisions and their potential to mobilise and activate the society.

Subjective influence on public affairs is now at the highest level since the beginning of 1990s (June 1992). Over two-fifths of respondents (41%) feel that they have influence on the national affairs.

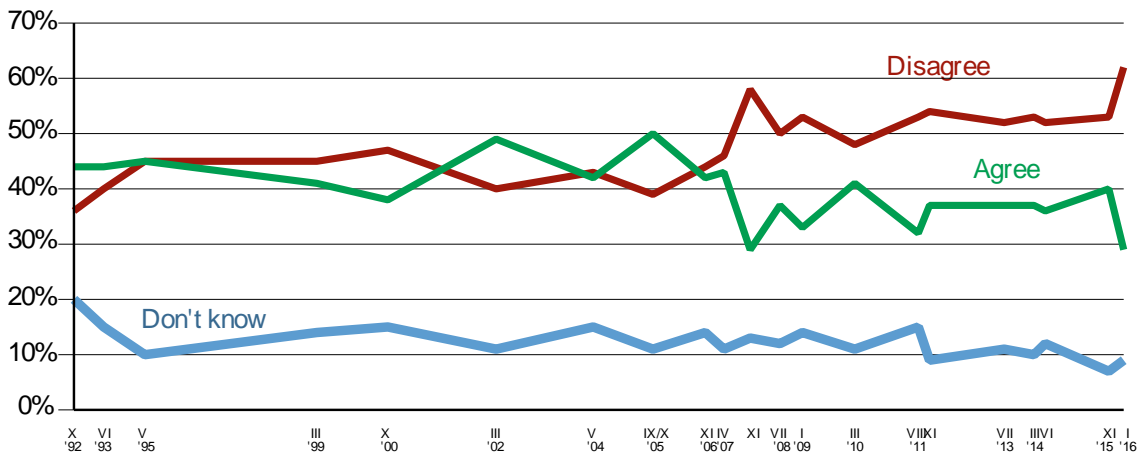
### Do people like you have influence on the affairs in Poland?



Factors increasing subjective influence on the national affairs are: good evaluation of household material living conditions, higher education and age below 55 years. Political views are also important. Respondents identifying with the right wing are more often convinced that they have influence on Poland's affairs than people with leftist and centrist orientation or the politically indifferent. The election results, beyond doubt, increased civic subjectivity of people identifying with the right wing.

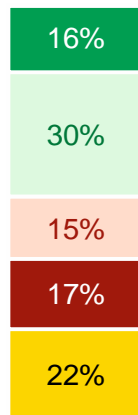
From November 2015 to January 2016 the level of political alienation markedly fell. The proportion of citizens who believe that it does not matter for them whether the government is democratic or not decreased by 11 percentage points and, at 29%, it is now at one of the lowest levels in CBOS surveys of democracy. At the same time, the proportion of people who are not indifferent in this regard increased by 9 points to 62%. It is the highest value ever recorded.

### Do you agree that, for people like you, it does not really matter whether government is democratic or not?

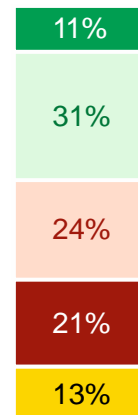


Committee for Defence of Democracy (KOD) is supported by 46% of respondents, while Law and Justice by 42%.

**Do you support actions of Committee for Defence of Democracy (KOD)?**

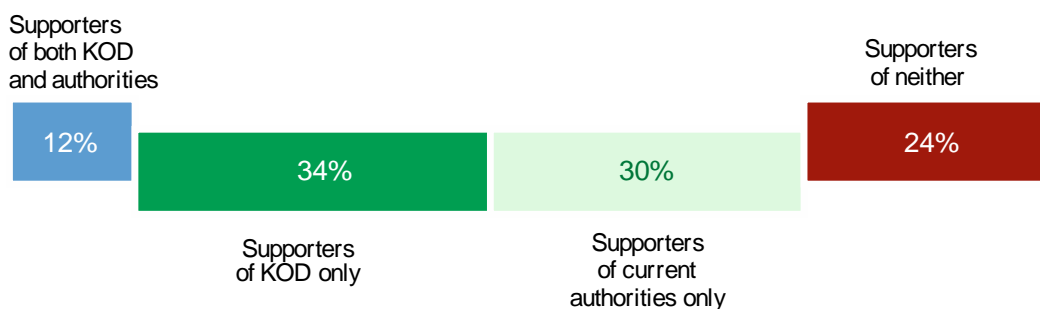


**Do you support actions of current authorities?**

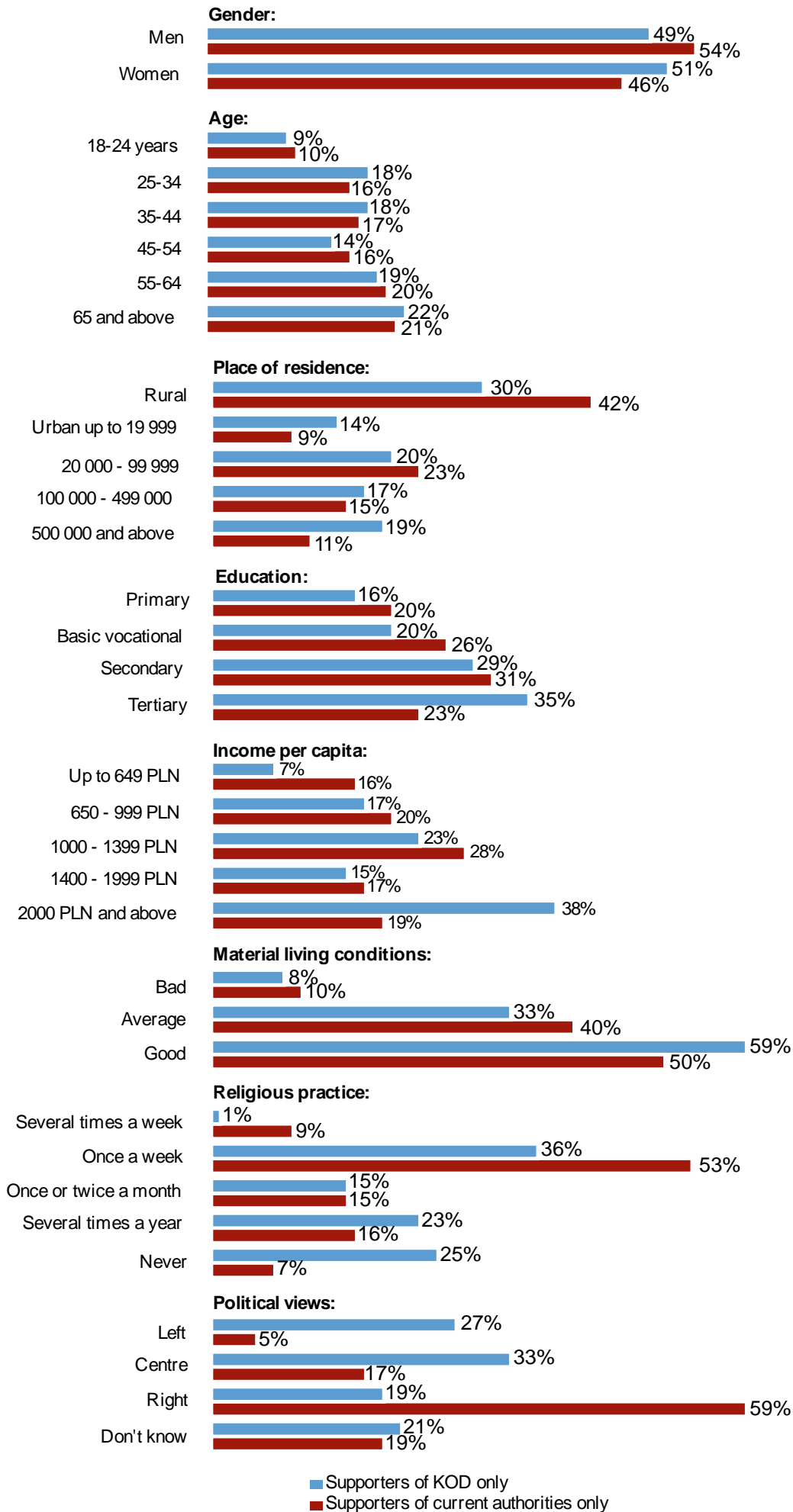


According to analyses, some people approve both of KOD and authorities. A third of respondents unequivocally approve of KOD (without supporting the government). The group of unequivocal supporters of PiS (i.e. those who do not support the Committee) is slightly smaller. One-fourth of respondents support neither side.

**Attitude to activities of Law and Justice (PiS) and Committee for Defence of Democracy (KOD)**



Among KOD supporters men and women are about equally represented. People aged 55 and above are relatively numerous. KOD supporters tend to live in cities, especially the biggest (500 thousand and more). Their education and material conditions are above average. They are less religious than society as a whole; they include a relatively high proportion of people with leftist and centrist political views. KOD sympathisers support the parties: Nowoczesna (50%) and Civic Platform (PO, 22%).



Among supporters of PiS policy, men are overrepresented. As with KOD supporters, people aged 55 and above are relatively numerous. As far as place of residence is concerned, they do not differ from the society as a whole. Their education and material situation do not differ markedly from the general population; however, the wealthiest (those with monthly income of 2000 PLN per capita and above) are slightly underrepresented. PiS supporters are characterized by relatively high religiosity and right-wing political orientation. A vast majority (72%) would vote PiS, while others support Kukiz'15 (11%) and the party KORWiN (4%).

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More information about this topic can be found in CBOS reports in Polish: "Socio-political Activity in Poland" and "Opinions about Democracy", February 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2016, N=1063. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.