

PUBLICOPINION

Solid and Professional

Perception of inflation

Prices of consumer goods and services in April 2022, compared to the same month last year, increased by 12.4%, and in one month they rose by 2.0%. Preliminary estimates for May indicate a further rise in inflation (13.9% year-on-year). This is the highest level since March 1998.

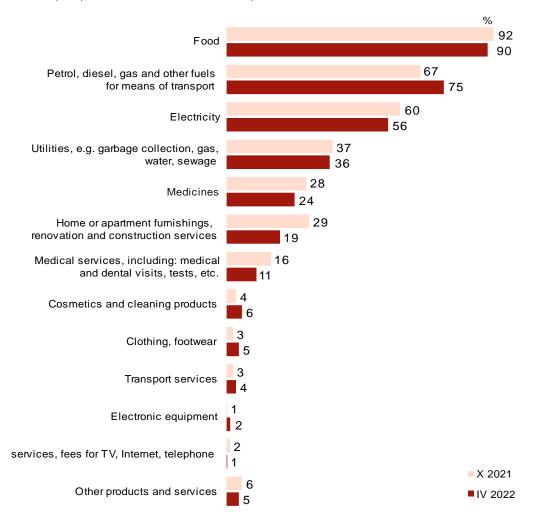
Virtually all adult Poles feel the price increase to a greater or lesser extent. Half of respondents (51%) declare that the effects of price increases are felt to a large extent by them and their household members, and a further 14% are affected to a very large extent. One-third claim that the effects of the price increase have affected them only to a small extent (33%). The assessments of the effects of price increases over the past three months have changed only to a small degree.

To what extent are price increases felt in your household?



For the majority of Poles, the most noticeable is the increase in food prices (90%), followed by the increase in fuel prices for means of transport (75%) and electricity (56%). Large groups indicate that the most severe increases are the cost of utilities, e.g. waste disposal, gas, water, sewage (36%), an increase in the prices of medicines (24%), as well as building materials, home furnishings and renovation and construction services (19%). In this context, one-ninth mentioned medical services, including medical and dental visits, and tests (11%). The remaining products and services were indicated by relatively few respondents (from 1% to 6%). Opinions on this subject have not changed significantly over the last six months. Compared to the measurement from October 2021, Poles feel more severely the increase in fuel prices for private means of transport, and slightly less severely experience the raise in the cost of medical services and building materials, home furnishings, and repair services.

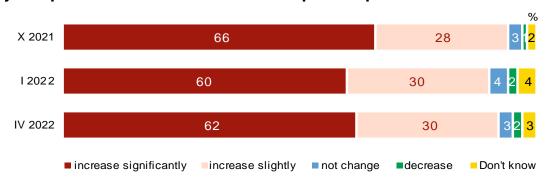
Please indicate, which price increases are the most noticeable in your household? Responses of people whose households felt price increase.



The analysis of socio-demographic differences shows that in almost all groups the increase in food prices is the most noticeable. The opinions on this subject are differentiated by the material situation. For the less well-off, i.e. people dissatisfied with the material conditions of their households, the increase in the prices of food, medicines and utilities is noticeable more than for the better-off. For the wealthier people, the higher fuel prices for private means of transport are more noticeable.

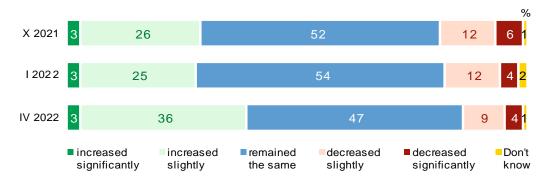
Inflation expectations have not decreased since the beginning of the year. Still, almost all respondents are convinced that prices will increase in the next year (92%), and the majority believe that they will increase significantly (62%).

Do you expect that in the next 12 months the prices of products and services will ...



Rising inflation puts pressure on wage growth. In March, pensions were also indexed. As a result, since January, the percentage of respondents declaring an increase in household income over the last year has increased significantly (from 28% to 39%). The largest group of respondents (47%) declare, however, that the income of their households has not changed. Some people (13%) say that their income has decreased over the last 12 months.

Overall, in the last 12 months, has the income of your household...



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Perception of Inflation", May 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: April 2022, N=1030. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.