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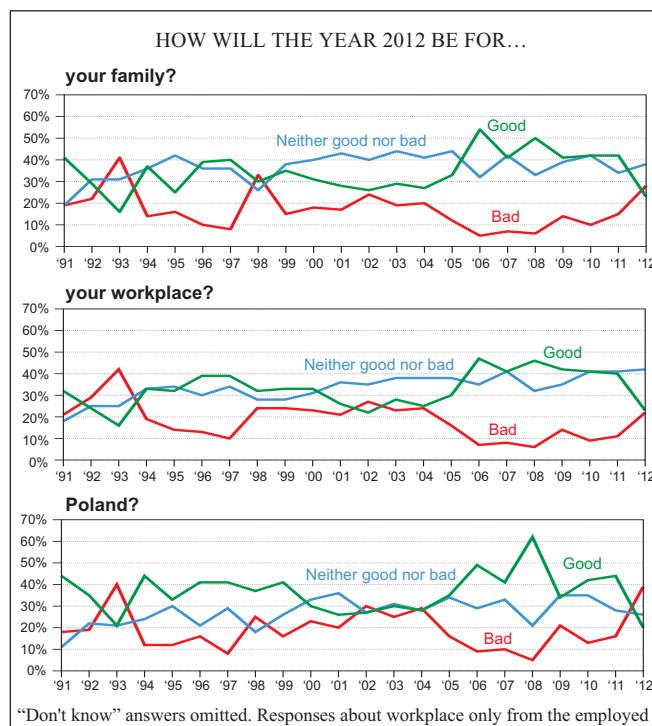
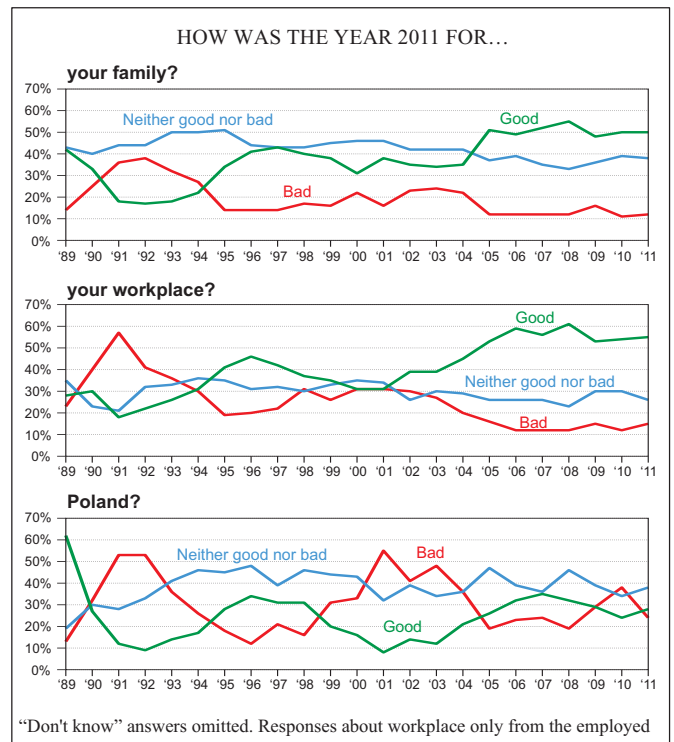
EVALUATIONS OF THE YEAR 2011 AND PREDICTIONS FOR 2012

Poles evaluate the year 2011 as good or at least average for themselves and their families. From a long term 20-year perspective it is clear that, in the last years, Poles are satisfied with their professional and family life.

The evaluation of the year 2011 for Poland is slightly worse. In the prevailing opinion it was an average year for the country.

Positive evaluations of the past year are reflected in the macroeconomic data on GDP growth, industrial production and consumption. They show that the standard of living is relatively good.

Positive evaluations of the past year contrast with pessimistic predictions for 2012.



It is clear that the new year was met with a high degree of uncertainty. Compared with the beginning of the previous year, we can see an increase in pessimism in predicting the future. This rise in pessimism concerns both private and public affairs. Last year, 42% expected improvement for the family, and this year only 23% are optimistic. Similar tendencies can be noted as far as the workplace is concerned: there is a drop in optimism from 40% to 23%. The biggest increase in pessimism concerns the situation in the country. According to 23% (as opposed to 44% a year ago) this year will be better for Poland than the previous one. A larger group (39%, as opposed to 16% a year

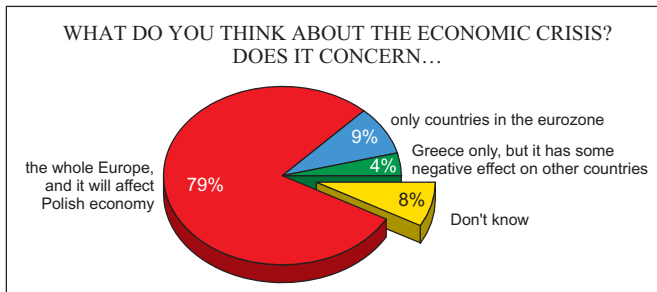
ago) are afraid of deterioration. The predictions for the country are among the worst in the last 20 years.

The deterioration is almost certainly related to the financial crisis in the eurozone, the situation of the other countries of the EU, and with the fear that the crisis will eventually affect Poland as well.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Evaluations of the year 2011 and predictions for 2012", January 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2011 (N=950). The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

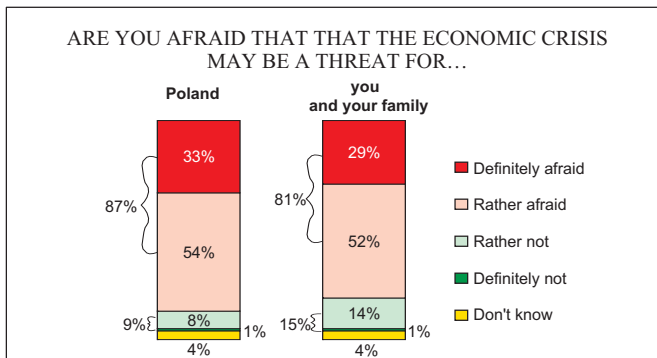
FEAR OF THE CRISIS

The vast majority of Poles (79%) are convinced that the crisis does not concern the eurozone only, but the whole Europe.



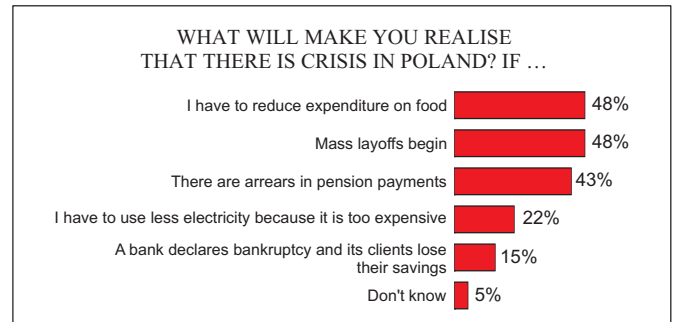
The fear that the crisis affects the whole Europe is accompanied by pessimism about the situation of Poland and personal situation. The belief that Poland is under threat is nearly universal: 87% of adult Poles share this conviction. Only slightly fewer consider the crisis to be dangerous for them and their families.

The universality and scale of the fear of crisis on the personal level is underlined by the fact that all social groups express it. It is most widespread among respondents who consider their material living conditions as bad, and only slightly less frequent among residents of big cities, respondents with higher education, those in good living conditions and those satisfied with their standard of living.



The crisis usually means the necessity to reduce expenditure on food, and mass redundancy resulting in high unemployment. Many respondents also mentioned

arrears in pension payments as a possible result of the crisis. Less frequently, the crisis is associated with the need to reduce the consumption of electricity, or bank bankruptcies resulting in loss of savings.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Fear of the crisis", January 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2011 (N=950). The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

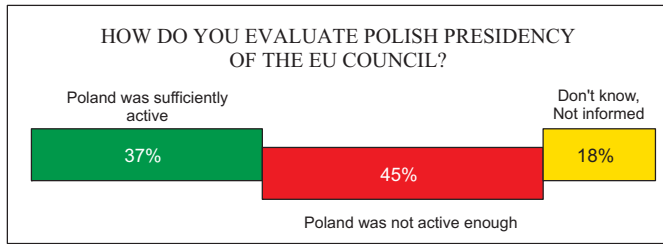
EVALUATION OF POLISH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

In Dec. 2011 the Polish presidency of the Council of the European Union ended. It lasted half a year. The political evaluations were mixed, as is usual in such cases. It seems clear, however, that Poland made no major mistakes and proved itself a proponent of developing European integration. According to the opinion of many commentators, the biggest success of the Polish presidency is the acceptance of the so-called six-pack, i.e. a set of regulations strengthening financial discipline in the eurozone.

When the Polish presidency in the EU Council started half a year ago, the social expectations were high, but realistic. Respondents expressed hope that Poland will be an effective manager of the EU Council, and that it will use this opportunity to promote the country on the European stage. The society expected increased influence of our country on EU policy and improvement of its image in Europe and around the world. Few expected Poland to be among the leaders of the Union. This scepticism came from the conviction that, regardless of who chairs the EU Council, the biggest and most influential countries have the most influence on the EU policy.

The societal evaluations of the Polish presidency are somewhat ambivalent. It seems that, in respondents' opinion, the scale of challenges facing Poland during the presidency was difficult to overcome. This made the presidency a moderate success, in public opinion.

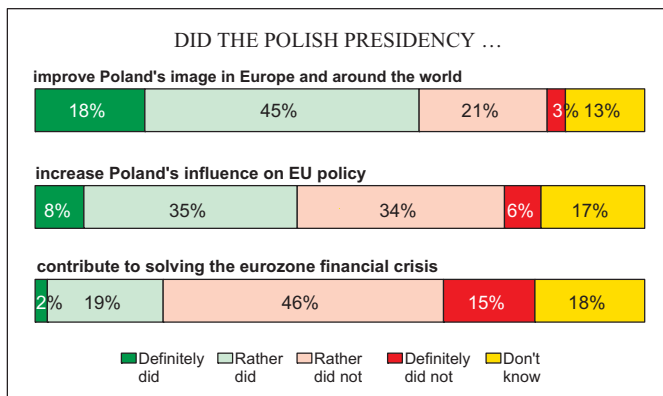
In the opinion of 45% of respondents, Poland was not sufficiently active during its presidency. On the other hand, the number of respondents considering Polish activity as sufficient is only slightly lower (37%).



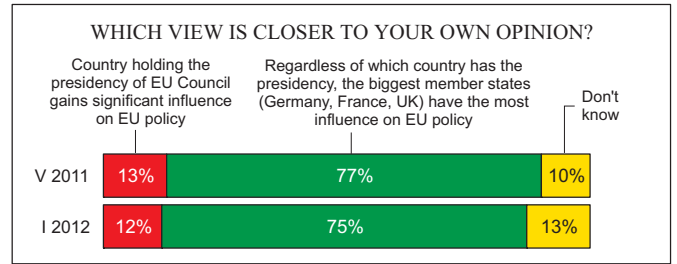
The effectiveness of Polish presidency is evaluated worse than the level of activity. The majority of respondents (55%) think that not much was achieved. About a quarter (26%) appreciate the effects of Polish presidency.



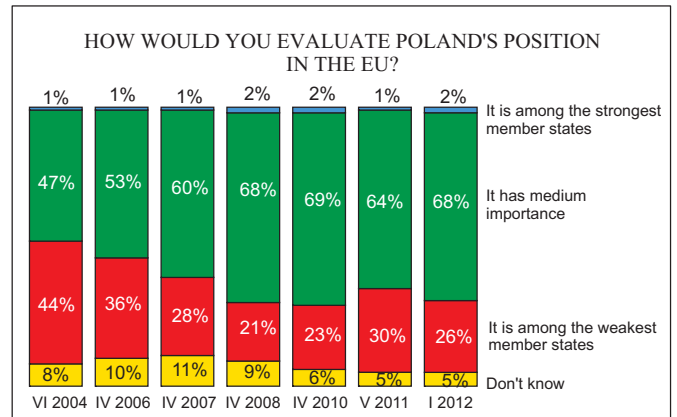
Some societal expectations related to the presidency have been fulfilled, especially those related to improving the image of Poland. According to almost two-thirds of respondents (63%), the image of Poland in Europe and around the world improved. The opinions about Poland's influence on EU policy are divided: 43% think Poland's influence increased, while 40% disagree. In spite of Poland's active role in solving the financial crisis in the eurozone (e.g. accepting the "six-pack"), the majority of respondents think that Polish presidency did not contribute to solving this problem.



Polish presidency did not change the conviction that, regardless of which country has the presidency, the biggest member states have the most influence on EU policy. Three-quarters (75%) share this view, while 12% think that the country holding the presidency gains significant influence on EU policy.



Poland is not considered to be among the most influential EU countries. The presidency did not change this assessment, but the position of our country in the EU is perceived somewhat better than in May 2011. The proportion of respondents thinking that Poland is insignificant decreased, while the percentage of those who consider it of medium importance increased. Presently, over two-thirds (68%) think Poland is of medium importance, while 26% think it is among the weakest EU members.



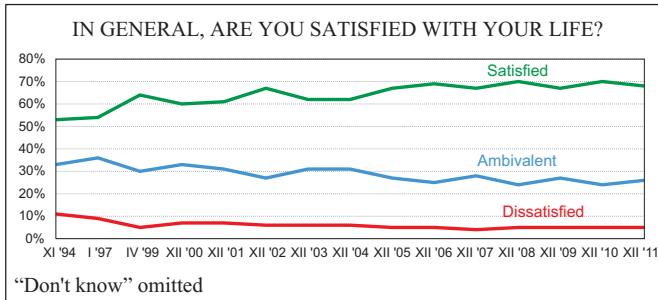
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Evaluation of Polish presidency of the Council of the European Union", January 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2012 (N=1058). The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

LIFE SATISFACTION

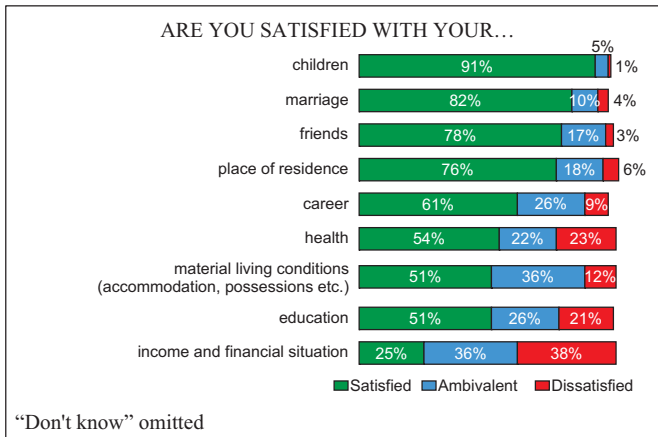
Most Poles (54%) are rather satisfied with their life, and one in seven (14%) is very satisfied. Overall, two-thirds (68%) declare satisfaction with their life. The figure is almost exactly the same as in 2010. The dissatisfied are not numerous (5%). The level of satisfaction has been stable in recent years. The second half of the last decade is better in this respect than the first one: in 2005 the level of satisfaction rose and has remained stable since then.

Poles draw satisfaction from family relations, friendship and ties with their local communities. The vast majority of parents are satisfied with their children (91%). Similarly, 82% of married people are satisfied with their relationship. Over three-quarters (78%) derive satisfaction from relations with friends and close

acquaintances. Place of residence is a source of satisfaction for a large majority of respondents (76%).



Most people with professional experience (61%) declare satisfaction with their career. The majority (54%) are happy with their health, while about half (51%) cannot complain about their material situation (accommodation, goods, etc.). However, income is satisfactory much less frequently (25%), with almost two-fifths (38%) expressing dissatisfaction and a similar group (36%) describing income as average.

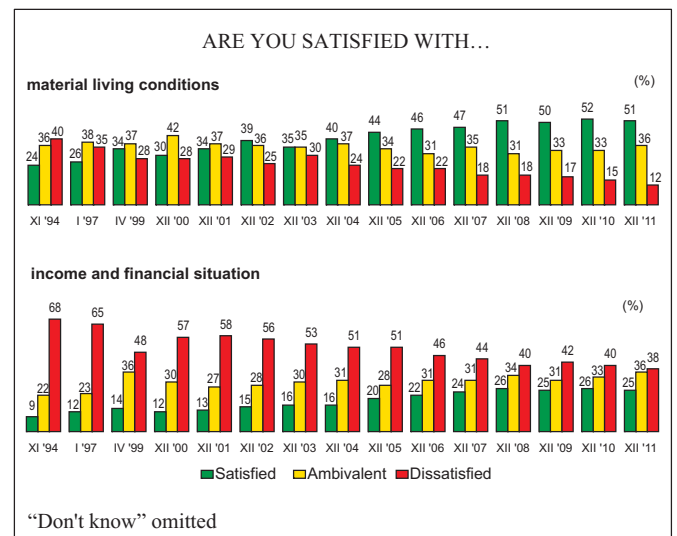


During the last year, the level of satisfaction with different aspects of life has remained almost unchanged.

There is a slight decrease in evaluation of health and relations with friends and acquaintances.

From a long-term perspective, there is a clear increase in satisfaction with material situation and income. In the last 17 years the proportion of people satisfied with their financial situation rose almost three times (from 9% to 25%), while the percentage of dissatisfied fell from 68% to 38%. At the same time, the proportion of respondents satisfied with their living conditions rose twice (from 24% to 51%), while the percentage of dissatisfied with this sphere of life fell from 40% to 12%.

Compared with the 1990s and the beginning of 2000s, there is a slight increase in satisfaction with the place of residence, career and health.



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *“Life satisfaction”*, January 2012. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2011 (N=950). The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

In addition to the reports referred to above, the following have been published recently (in Polish):

- ◆ Event of the Year 2011 in Poland and in the World
- ◆ Opinions About Government Savings Planned for New Year
- ◆ Party Preferences in January
- ◆ Opinions About Parliament and President
- ◆ Role of Grandparents in Our Lives
- ◆ Drop in the Government Ratings
- ◆ Today's Links with Former Borderlands
- ◆ European Year of Volunteering 2011
- ◆ Trust in Politicians in January
- ◆ Social Moods in January
- ◆ Charity in Poland in Times of Economic Crisis
- ◆ Psychological Wellbeing in 2011

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