

PUBLICOPINION POLISH

Solid and Professional

12/2021

ISSN 2083-1714

CONTENTS

Public opinion on the crisis on the border with Belarus

Corruption in Poland

Satisfaction with work

Depression in experiences and opinions

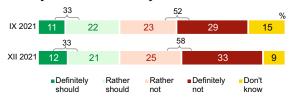
IN ADDITION

TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED RECENTLY (IN POLISH):

- · Violations of Worker's Rights
- Evaluation of the Second Cabinet of Mateusz Morawiecki after Two Years of Activity
- Professional Situation and Readiness to Change Jobs
- Memory of the Martial Law Forty Years after Its Introduction
- Mental Health
- Political Party Preferences in December
- · Opinions about Parliament and President
- Coronavirus Fears, Attitude towards Vaccination, Evaluation of Government Policy
- Social Moods in December
- Trust in Politicians in December
- Christmas 2021
- Attitude to Government in December
- Attitude to Selected Morally Controversial Behaviours
- Moods on the Job Market in the First Half of December
- Evaluations of the Year 2021

Public opinion on the crisis on the border with Belarus

Should the Polish authorities allow migrants staying on the Polish-Belarusian border to apply for asylum in our country?

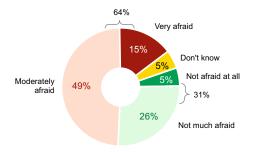


while almost six out of ten (58%) are of the opposite opinion.

Two-thirds of Poles (66%) support the construction of a barrier on the border with Belarus, which would hinder illegal migration. Rejection of this method of border control is expressed by one-fourth (26%).

Nearly two-thirds of Poles (64%) fear that the situation on the border with Belarus may lead to an

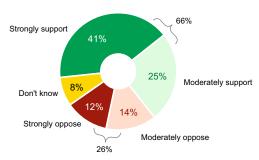
Are you afraid that the situation on the Polish-Belarusian border may lead to an armed conflict?



increase by 13 points, a record level ever recorded) are of the opposite opinion. We noted a similar percentage of people unsure about NATO aid in September 2014, i.e. in the first year of the armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, or more precisely after the Newportsummit, at which

There is a persistent reluctance to allow migrants on the Polish-Belarusian border to access the asylum procedure. One-third of respondents (33%) believe that they should be allowed to apply for asylum in Poland,

Do you support building a barrier on the border with Belarus, which would make it difficult to cross it illegally?



armed conflict. Almost one-third (31%) do not see such a risk.

Confidence in NATO has declined significantly since the previous measurement in February 2020 and is now at a record low. Almost half of respondents (49%, a drop by 19 percentage points) believe that our country can be sure of the involvement of allies in the possible defence of Polish borders, while over a third (36%, an

Do you agree that at this moment Poland can be sure of NATO allies' commitment to defence of our borders in case of need?



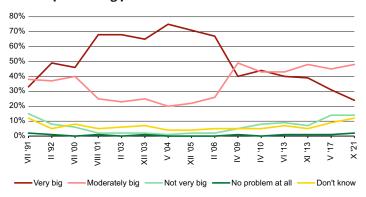
representatives of allied states condemned Russia for the military intervention in Ukraine.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Public Opinion about the Crisis on the Boarder with Belarus", December 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2021, N=1063. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Corruption in Poland

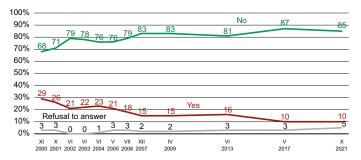
Almost three-quarters of respondents (72%) are convinced that corruption is currently a serious problem in Poland, with one fourth (24%) considering it a very important problem, and 48% seeing it as rather big, while 16% downplay corruption, considering it insignificant. Compared to the assessments from the previous three decades, the threat of corruption is not perceived today as particularly strongly present in political and social life. It was considered a particularly big problem in the first decade of this century. The current general distribution of ratings is almost identical to that of over thirty years ago, shortly after Poland regained sovereignty, in July 1991. Today's perception of corruption as an important social problem is therefore the lowest in thirty years.

Is corruption a big problem in Poland?



People who personally know someone who takes bribes constitute 10% of all respondents, which is the same as four years ago and clearly less than we registered in the earlier period. Judging by the responses, accepting bribes at the beginning of this century was much more frequent than today.

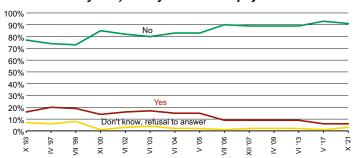
Do you personally know anyone who takes bribes?



Every twentieth respondent (5%, the same as four years ago) was offered a bribe at least once in his or her life.

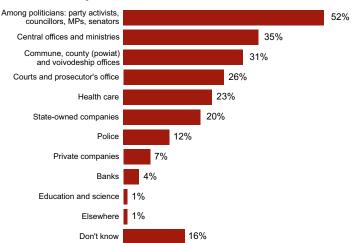
Declarations regarding giving bribes also show that the scale of corruption has been reduced in recent years. Since 2017, the percentage of respondents declaring giving bribes (6%) has remained the same, i.e. the lowest recorded for less than three decades. For comparison, at the end of the 1990s this percentage was as high as 20% and was the highest in the analysed period.

In the last 3-4 years, were you forced to pay a bribe?



According to Poles, the area of social life in which corruption is currently the most widespread is politics. More than half (52%) are convinced of various forms of corruption among party activists, parliamentarians or councillors. In the second place on the list of the most corrupt institutions, with around one third of the votes, are central offices and ministries (35%), followed by commune, county (powiat) and voivodeship offices (31%).

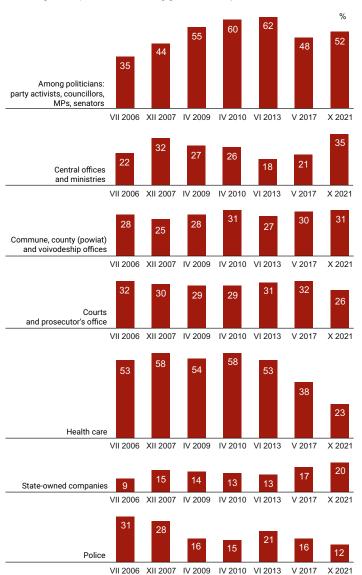
Where is corruption the most common?



The belief that politics is the area in which corruption occurs most frequently was more widespread than it is now during the rule of the previous coalition of Civic Platform and Polish Peasant Party (PO-PSL): in 2013 it was expressed by 62% of respondents. At the same time, it was clearly shared less often than today during the first Law and Justice (PiS) rule: in 2006 it was expressed by 35% of respondents. Moreover, more people than during the previous PiS rule and during the PO-PSL rule see corruption in central offices and ministries as well as in state-owned companies. On the other hand, the percentage of people noticing corruption in the health care system, in the police force, courts and the prosecutor's office is the lowest since we first conducted our research, i.e. since 2001.

Where is corruption the most common?

Percentage of respondents indicating given areas in years 2006-2021

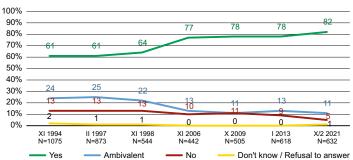


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Various Colours of Corruption in Poland", December 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2021, N=1161. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Satisfaction with work

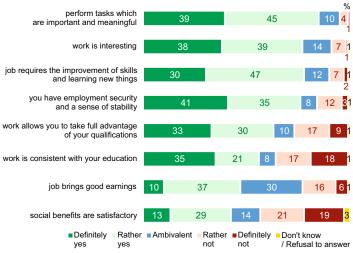
More than four-fifths of the employed (82%) express satisfaction with their work, of which 37% are very satisfied. One in twenty employees voices dissatisfaction. In the 21st century, the percentage of people satisfied with their work is clearly higher than in the 1990s.

Overall, are you satisfied with your work?



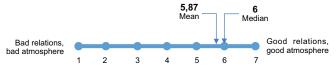
It is commonly believed that work is a source of selfrealization. More than four-fifths of Poles who are economically active (84%) believe that the tasks they perform at work are important and make sense. More than three-quarters consider their work interesting (77%), declare that they have job security and a sense of stability (77%), and say that it requires them to improve their skills and learn new things (76%). The evaluation of work in terms of using the acquired qualifications and education is slightly worse. However, the majority (63%) of respondents claim that their current job allows them to take full advantage of their qualifications, and more than half (56%) say that it is compatible with their education. Issues related to the material dimension of work are assessed significantly worse. Less than half of the employed (47%) say that their current job brings them good wages. Social benefits related to gainful employment are rated the worst. Only a slight plurality of employees consider them satisfactory (42% satisfied, 40% dissatisfied).

Please evaluate your current work in various respects. In your current job, do you...

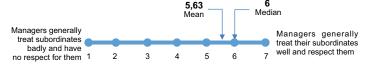


Polish employees have a good opinion of the general atmosphere and relations in their workplace and the attitude of managers to their subordinates, although the average grades are slightly worse in the latter aspect.

How would you rate the general atmosphere and personal relations in your workplace?



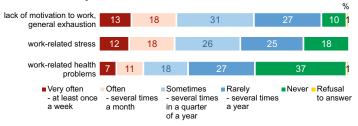
How would you rate the attitude of managers to subordinates in your workplace?



Despite high job satisfaction, the majority of employees experience work-related exhaustion and stress, including

almost one-third feeling it several times a month or more. Fewer people suffer from work-related health problems: around a fifth (18%) experience them frequently.

How often do you feel:



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Job Satisfaction and Evaluation of the Impact of Work on Other Spheres of Life", December 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2021, N=1157. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Depression in experiences and opinions

According to the World Health Organization, 350 million people suffer from depression. It is now the fourth most common disease and is predicted to be number one at the end of this decade.

According to declarations, depression has affected more than one-tenth of people in Poland (11%), including three out of one hundred (3%) currently suffering from it. The scale of the phenomenon estimated on the basis of the declarations of CBOS respondents is basically the same as three years ago. Translating the percentages into the number of adult residents of Poland, it can be said that over 3,250,000 people have experienced depression, of which over 950,000 currently suffer.

Have you ever suffered from depression?



Taking into account the basic socio-demographic characteristics of respondents, seems that the greatest risk factor when it comes to developing depression is young age. As many as 17% of respondents under the age of 25 admit they have suffered from depression, and 11% of them currently do. Among students the figures are 24% and 11%, respectively. The oldest respondents aged at

least 75 (15% of whom have had depression) also stand out compared to other age groups. In addition, residents of cities with a population of half a million and more relatively often admit to this ailment, mainly in the past (18% of them in total have experienced it). Such declarations are made by women to a slightly greater extent than by men (14% compared to 8%). The economic situation may also be a risk factor. Responses show aboveaverage rates for people with low income per person in the household (among income group PLN 1,000 to PLN 1,500 the rate is 15%) and among those assessing their financial situation as bad (14%).

Almost half of people who declared suffering from depression (49%, i.e. 5% of all adults) had it once in their life. For a slightly smaller group (45% in total), episodes of depression occurred a few times (30%, i.e. 3% of the total) or frequently (15%, i.e. 2% of the total).

Over two-thirds of those who have suffered from depression (68%, i.e. 7% of all respondents) claim that it was caused by some traumatic event, e.g. death of a close person, illness, separation, loss of job, etc. More than onetenth (11%, i.e. 1% of all adults) say depression started for no apparent reason. In the case of about one-eighth (13%, i.e. 1% of the total) the circumstances were different.

Was your depression ...



Answers from people who have had depression

Three-quarters of people admitting having had depression (76%, i.e. 8% of all adults) consulted a doctor, psychologist, psychotherapist or other specialist on this matter. Compared to 2018, the percentage of people seeking help decreased by 6 percentage points, which may be at least partly related to the pandemic.

The vast majority of respondents who consulted a specialist for depression visited a psychiatrist (76%). Much less frequently they went to a psychologist or psychotherapist (43%), and even less frequently they saw a family doctor (23%). Relatively few consulted a physician with another specialization (9%).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Depression – Experiences and Opinions", December 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2021, N=1100. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

For more information on CBOS services and publications please contact:

CBOS

5/7, Świętojerska, 00-236 Warsaw, Poland

Phones: (48) 22 629 35 69, 22 628 37 04 Fax: (48) 22 629 40 89

e-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl www.cbos.pl

Circulation: 50 copies

CBOS EXPERTISE

in providing professional, accurate and timely research has made us the leading authority in political, social and consumer research in Poland.

All sources must be credited when any part of this publication is reproduced © COPYRIGHT BY CBOS, 2022