

Situation of the unemployed

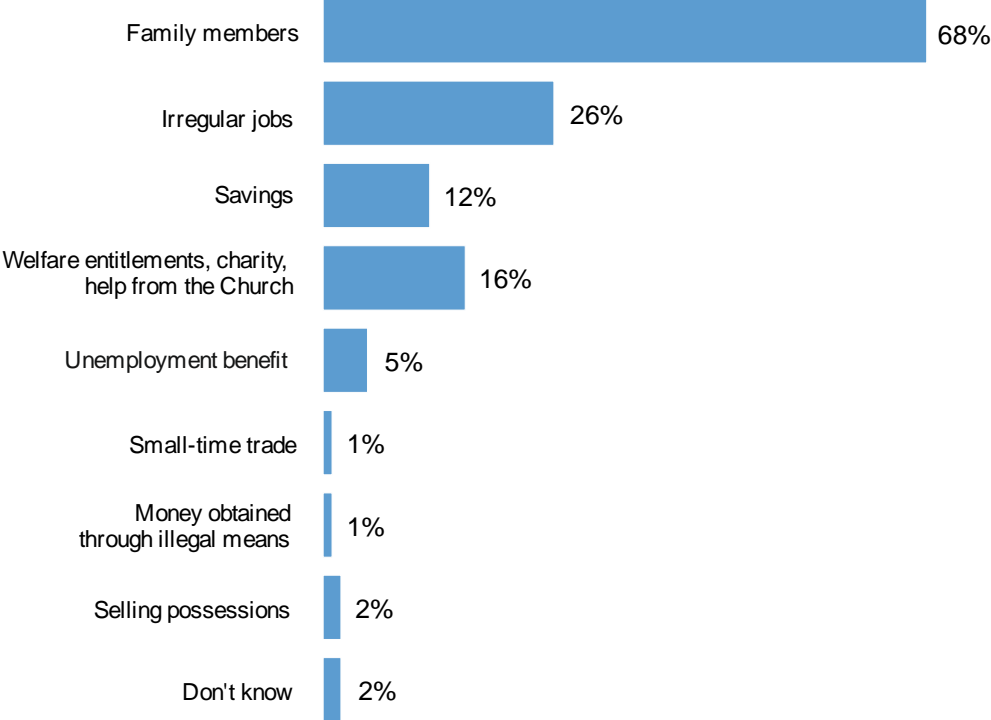
According to official statistics, unemployment is falling in Poland. In April the registered unemployment rate was 11.2%, whereas a year ago it was 13% and two years ago it was 14%. The improvement noted in the last two years is also reflected in CBOS research. It indicates that in the past year unemployment, based on respondents' declarations, has fallen slightly. At present 23% of households are affected; 12% of Poles self-describe as unemployed; 7% do not work, look for employment and are ready to take a job if offered one.

Most respondents who call themselves unemployed have been out of work longer than a year (65%), in which one-fifth (19%) have been unemployed between 2 and 5 years and over a third (37%) have not worked over 5 years. It can be assumed that a large proportion of them have given up looking for work altogether. Furthermore, being long-term unemployed is associated with older age and poor education.

A vast majority of the unemployed claim that their subsistence is provided by other members of the family. About a quarter of self-declared unemployed live off their own work, usually odd jobs or small-time trade. For 16% the main source of income are welfare

entitlements and charity. One-eighth live off their savings, while the unemployment benefit is the main source of income for one-twentieth.

What is your main source of income or subsistence?



Answers of respondents self-described as unemployed. N=244

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Situation of the unemployed", May 2015. Fieldwork for national sample: March and April 2015. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland. N=2089 (total), in which the unemployed: N=244