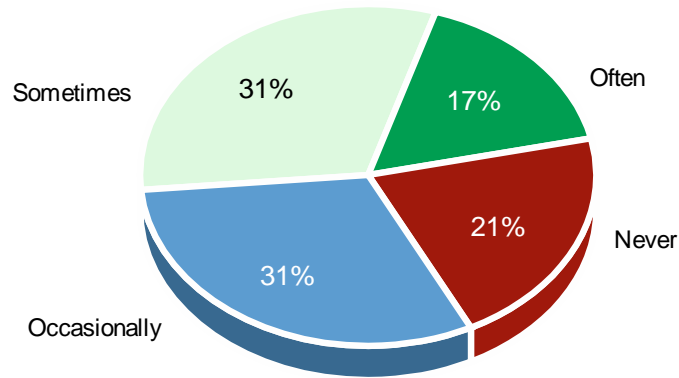


Prohibition of trade on Sunday

Over half a million Poles signed a citizens' proposal of a law to restrict trade on Sunday. The draft was initiated by the Banking, Trade and Insurance section of NSZZ „Solidarność” (Solidarity trade union) and received support from numerous circles. The draft envisages a ban on trade on Sunday, with the exception of several Sundays in a year. According to the proposal, stores in which the owner sells products could be open. Exceptions would also apply, for instance, to petrol stations, bakeries, pharmacies, newsstands and florists. Initiators of this draft cite the example of many European countries where trade on Sunday is restricted. Supporters of the new law quote concerns for the welfare of trade employees. Opponents are afraid of negative socio-economic consequences, such as decrease in employment and lower turnover.

According to declarations, almost half of adult Poles (48%) do their shopping on Sunday, in which one-sixth do it often.

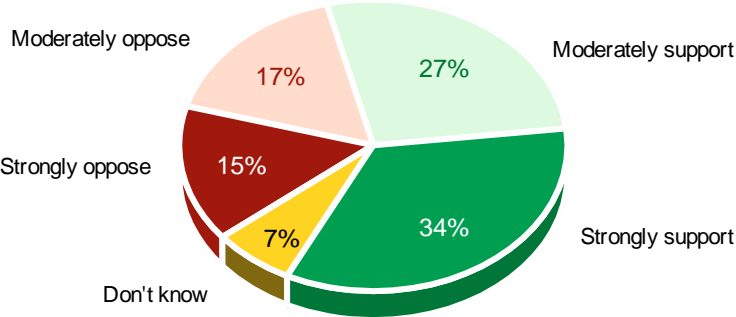
Do you go shopping on Sunday?



The draft proposal for banning trade on Sunday has twice as many supporters (61%) as opponents (32%). The support for banning Sunday trade prevails in most analysed socio-demographic groups. It is supported by women (65%) more often than by men (57%). Doubts are relatively strong among residents of biggest cities and small towns, the best-educated and the well-off, but even among them supporters of the ban prevail. In professional groups, the ban is most commonly supported by employees in the service sector (81%), while the opposition is most clearly seen among the self-employed (53%) and managers and professionals (48%).

The attitude to this proposal is strongly differentiated by religiosity. The more common the declared participation in religious services, the more prevalent the support for the ban on Sunday trade. It is almost universal among people who attend the church several times a week (93%). People who do not attend religious services support it to the smallest degree and among them rejection (48%) is slightly more common than acceptance (46%). The attitude to this proposal is also determined by political views of respondents. The support for the ban is strongest in the group identifying with the right wing (75%), while it is lowest among people describing their political views as left-wing, who reject this proposal (53%) more commonly than accepting it (42%).

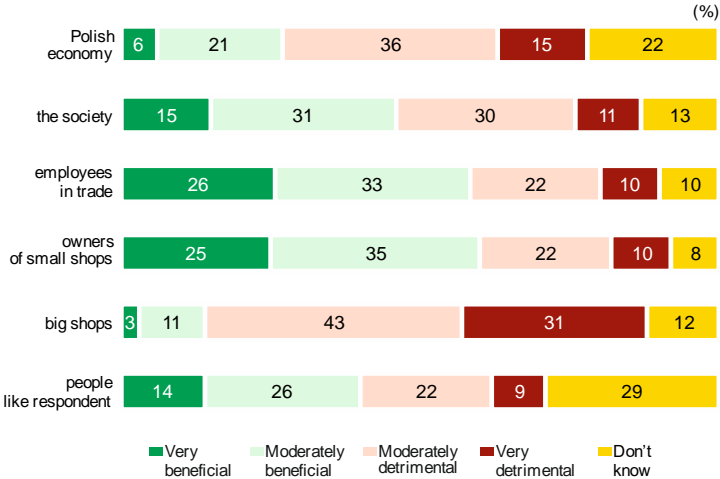
**Do you support the ban on Sunday trade on conditions outlined in the proposal?
According to it only stores where the owner sells products could be open.
Exceptions would be made e.g. for petrol stations, bakeries, newsstands and
pharmacies. Some Sundays would be exempted from the ban.**



In public opinion the primary beneficiaries of the ban on Sunday trade would be the employees in retail trade (59% share this opinion) and owners of small shops (60%), while the primary losers would be big stores (74%). The views on overall consequences for the society are divided: the opinion that they would be positive (46%) are slightly more common than the opposite opinion (41%).

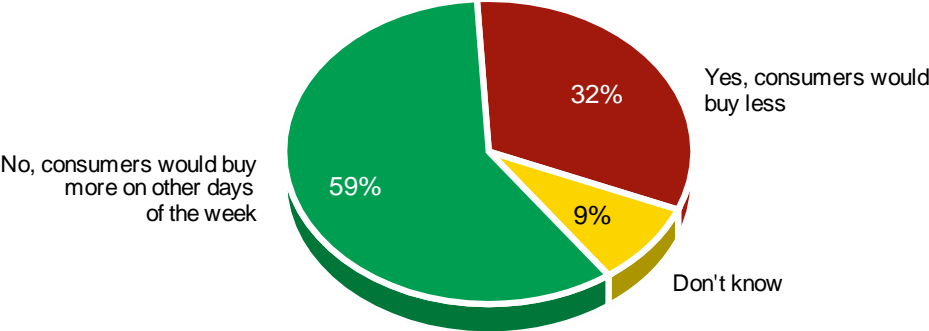
The most difficult to assess are the predicted consequences of the ban for respondents and people like them. A large proportion of respondents (29%) do not think about the proposed ban of Sunday shopping in terms of personal or communal gains and losses. The others more commonly think it is beneficial (40%), rather than detrimental (31%) for people like them. The group potentially most affected, i.e. employees in service sector, in their majority (61%) express the conviction that such a ban would be beneficial for them.

Would the ban on trade on Sunday be beneficial for...



Although over half of respondents are concerned about negative economic consequences of the proposed ban on trade on Sunday, the majority do not expect the turnover to decrease and believe, in line with assumption of the proponents of the law, that consumers would buy more during the rest of the week. Less than a third of respondents expect turnover to fall.

Would the ban on Sunday trade decrease turnover in shops?



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Ban on Sunday Trading", September 2016. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2016, N=981. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.