

Evaluations of the past year and forecasts for 2018

According to declarations, the year 2017 was for Poles, their families and workplaces the best since 1989, which was the year of systemic breakthrough. Almost two-thirds of respondents say that the past year was good for them personally and their families (65% each). Almost two thirds of employees (65%) described it as good for their workplaces.

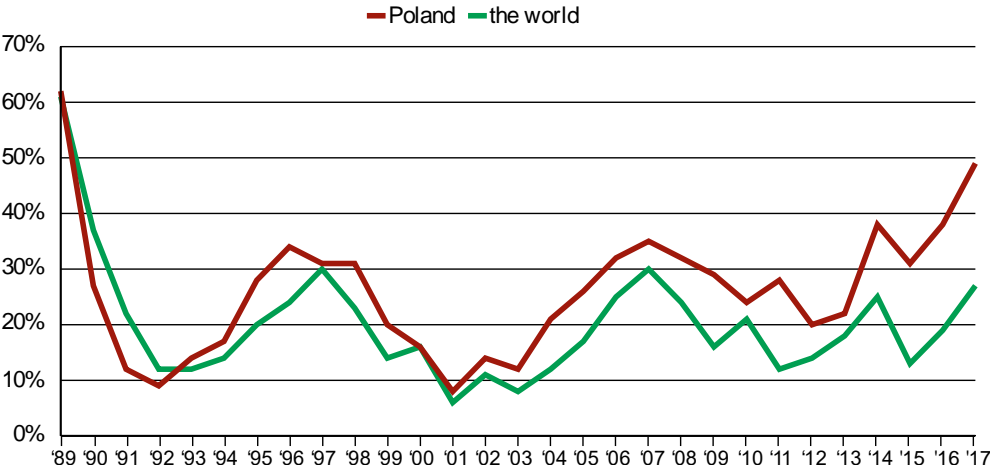
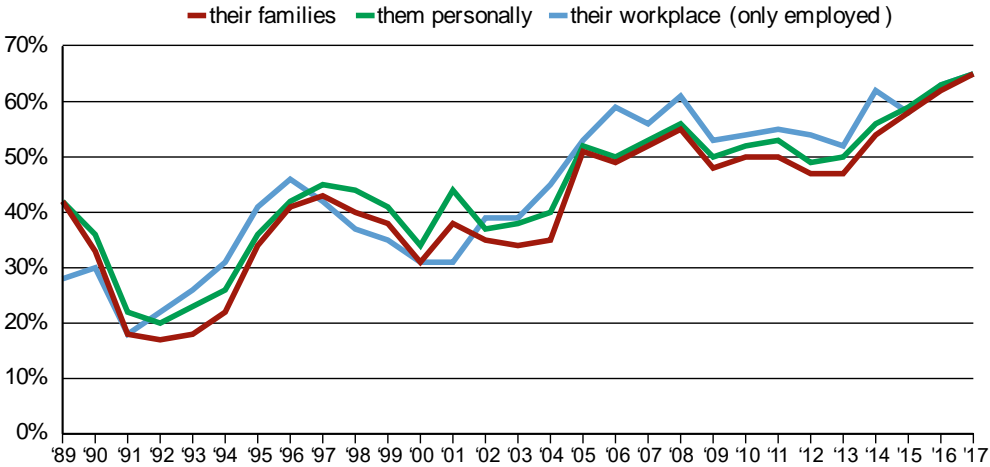
Statistical analyses show that the assessments of the last year in the private dimension depend primarily on the perception of the material conditions of the household. The greater the satisfaction with financial situation, the better the evaluation of the previous year. The scale of differences in the assessments of 2017 due to perceived material conditions is very high: 82% of people describing their living situation as good are satisfied with last year personally and for their families. Corresponding figures for people describing living conditions as bad are: 20% and 24%.

Evaluations of the balance of last year for Poland are more moderate than in the private and professional sphere, but also historically good. Almost half of respondents (49%) consider 2017 to be good for our country. The ratings of the past year are second only to those which pertained to 1989.

The assessment of 2017 for Poland is mainly differentiated by political orientation. The conviction that the past year was good for our country is expressed by the vast majority of respondents declaring right-wing political views (71%). This opinion is more rarely shared by respondents identifying themselves with the left (35%) or the political centre (40%).

The assessments of the global situation in the past year are diverse. Similar percentages of respondents describe it as good (27%), neither good nor bad (32%) and bad (30%). Despite ambiguous assessments, in the public opinion 2017 was better for the world than 2016.

Percentage of people assessing the past year as good for:



Expectations for 2018 are moderately optimistic, with hopes for improvement primarily relating to family life and personal matters. Over two fifths of respondents expect that this year will be better for them (46%) and for their families (45%) than the previous year. The rest generally predict that it will be the same as 2017 (38% and 39% respectively). Predictions about personal and family life depend mainly on age. Younger respondents look

into the future with more optimism than older ones. For example, 65% of respondents aged 18 - 34 expect improvement in personal life, and only 29% of respondents aged 65+ do. Positive outlook to the year 2018 is also related to good assessment of the financial situation of the household: 19% of those poorly assessing their financial situation expect a better year, whereas 55% of people describing it as good look forward to the future.

Employees expect that 2018 will be the same as the past (43%) or better (36%) for their workplaces.

In predictions about Poland, there is moderate optimism. The plurality of respondents (41%) expect that 2018 will be better for our country than the previous, the others generally think that it will be the same as 2017 (31%). Optimistic predictions about the development of the situation in Poland in 2018 are expressed more often than a year earlier. Predictions about the development of the situation in the country, as is the case with its assessments, are mainly related to political orientation. Optimism about the situation in the country is expressed mainly by respondents declaring right-wing political views (55%), much less often by those who identify with the left (35%) or the political centre (36%).

In public opinion, this year appears to pose slightly worse prospects for the world than for Poland, although the expectations for improvement (34%) or no change (31%) are the most common in this case. Also in this dimension, there is more hope for improvement compared to the previous year.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Evaluations of the Year 2017 and Forecasts for the Year 2018", December 2017. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2017, N=925. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.