

POLISH PUBLICOPINION

Solid and Professional

The epidemic and professional careers

The epidemic and restrictions associated with it have more or less severely affected the professional career of almost half (46%) of people in employment on March 1 2020 (including employees, the self-employed, farmers and people performing commissioned work on civil contracts). Almost one in ten in that group (9%) had to limit operations and reduce employment in their own company, and every twentieth (5%) had to close a company. A total of 11% of respondents working on March 1 report scaling down or total cessation of business activity. One-fifth (20%) of those who worked on March 1 2020 have been working part-time because of the epidemic, and three in a hundred (3%) have lost their jobs. The synthetic approach shows that due to the epidemic, 7% of those who worked at the beginning of March lost their employment or closed their own business, and a quarter (25%) experienced adverse changes in earning opportunities due to reduced working time or the need to limit the company's operations. Over a fifth (21%) of respondents worked from home during lockdown, while one twentieth (5%) were in receipt of a carer's benefit to look after their children at home.

Have there been any changes in your professional career due to the coronavirus epidemic and related restrictions?



Percentages of respondents employed at the beginning of March who had to ...

Nearly one in three self-employed (31%) had problems with their own business: 23% of them had to limit and 14% quit their activities. The youngest, least educated and unskilled employees most often report redundancy; women mention it twice as often as men. Limiting the possibility of earning a living, i.e. a forced reduction in the number of working hours, also applied most often to the youngest employees. The other highly affected groups were mid-level staff and technicians, as well as service and administrative employees. Remote work was conducted most often by people with higher education, managers and specialists, administrative and office employees, and employees in public institutions. Generally, those living in the largest cities did it more than others: half of them have had such experience. Childcare allowance for children was used mostly by women (nine times more frequently by women than men). Administrative and office employees used it more than on average.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Coronavirus Epidemic and Professional Situation of Poles", June 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: May/June 2020, N=1308. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.