

## Problems with water

The territory of Poland is an area where water resources are not very large and it is predicted that in the near future the water deficit in our country will occur. In addition, climate change causes the increased incidence of both heavy rainfall and related floods as well as periods of drought.

The declarations show that Poles experience the effects of water deficit much more often than its excess. Almost two-thirds of respondents (65%), at least from time to time, in their place of residence or in the vicinity, reported the occurrence of drought that affects the state of nature and agriculture, with one-fifth (20%) claiming that such a situation occurs regularly every year or almost every year. Almost one-third (31%) reported floods from time to time, including 4% observing them regularly every year or almost every year.

### Are there:

periods of drought in your place of residence or area, which affect the state of nature and agriculture



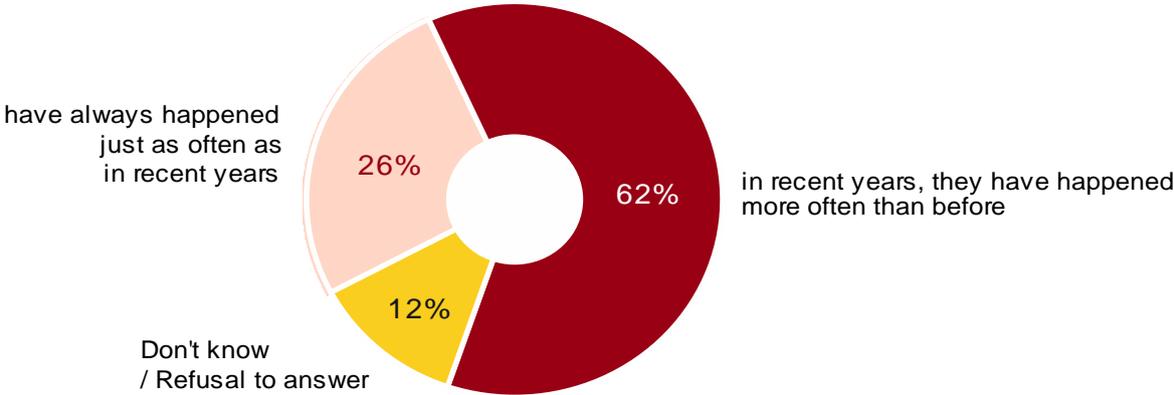
floods, inundations



■ Yes, regularly every year or almost every year  
 ■ Yes, from time to time  
 ■ No  
 ■ Don't know, refusal to answer

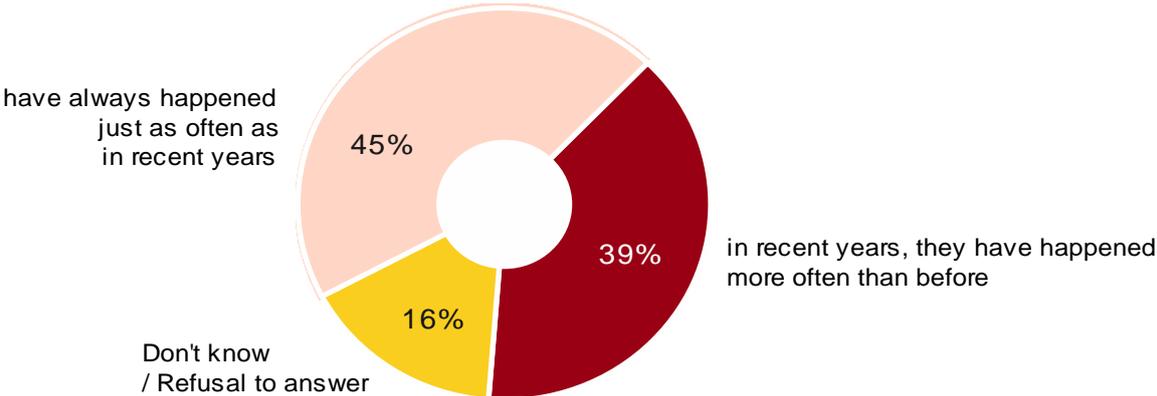
The majority (62%) of respondents noting droughts in their place of residence or the surrounding area believe that they happen more often now than in the past. Only 26% say that they always happened as often as in recent years. Also, a significant group observing floods and inundations in the vicinity of their place of residence think that in recent years they have happened more often than before (39%). However, the prevailing group are convinced that floods have always been as common as in recent years (45%).

**According to your knowledge, in your place of residence or in the vicinity, periods of drought that affect the state of nature and agriculture:**



*Responses of people who answered that there are periods of drought in their place of residence or their vicinity, which affect the state of nature and agriculture (N = 756).*

**According to your knowledge, in your place of residence or in the vicinity, floods, or inundations:**

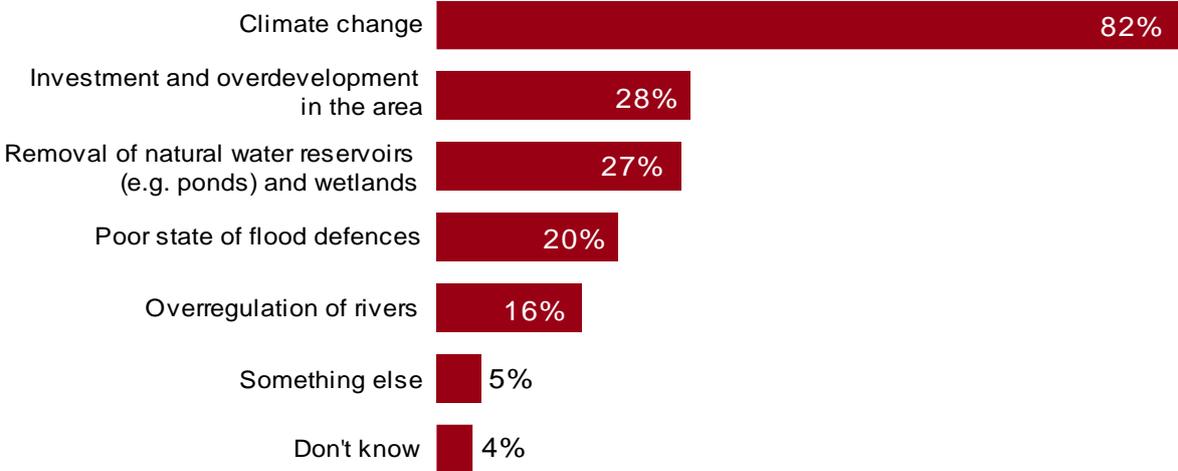


*Responses of people who answered that there were floods or inundations in their place of residence or in the vicinity (N = 362).*

Respondents who think that droughts or floods affecting nature or agriculture in their place of residence or their vicinity happen more often than before usually link the occurrence of

these phenomena with climate change (82 % of them, i.e. 36% of all respondents). It can therefore be said that more than one-third of adult Poles perceive the negative impact of climate change on problems with the amount of water in the immediate vicinity. Other factors mentioned in this context quite often are: investments resulting in overdevelopment in the area and liquidation of natural water reservoirs such as ponds and wetlands (28% and 27%, respectively, of people noting an increase in the frequency of problems with lack or excess of water, which constitutes 12% of the total).

**What causes these phenomena to be more frequent now than they used to be?**



*Responses of people who answered that in recent years droughts that affect the state of nature and agriculture or floods and inundations have occurred more frequently in their place of residence or in the vicinity than in the past (N = 515).*

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: “Polish Water Problems”, September 2021. Fieldwork for national sample: July 2021, N=1166. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.