

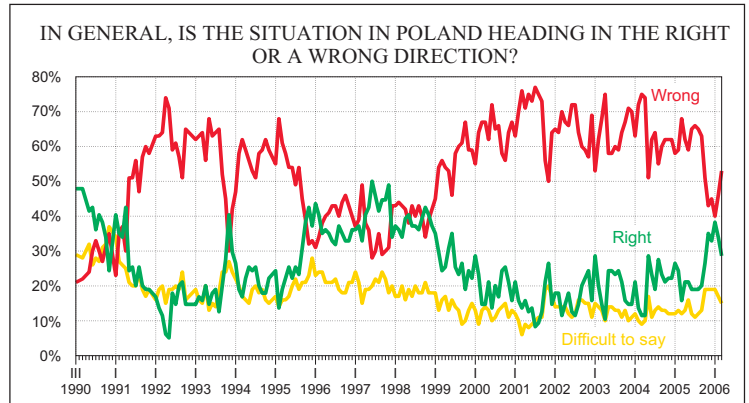


IN THIS ISSUE:

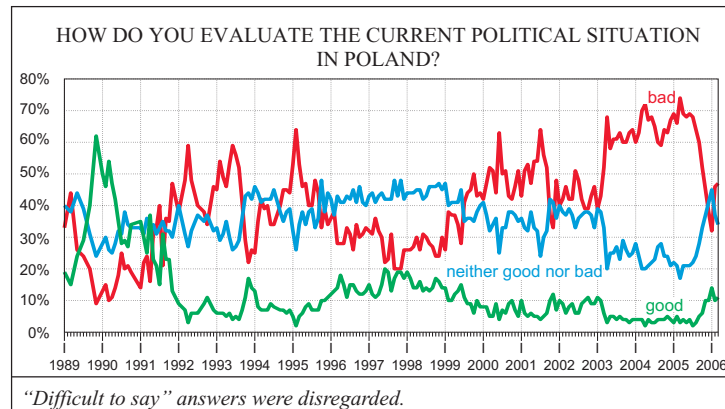
- SOCIAL MOOD IN POLAND
- POLES AND GERMANS ABOUT THEIR MUTUAL RELATIONS
- REPRODUCTIVE NEEDS AND PREFERRED FAMILY MODELS
- THE POLICY OF THE STATE TOWARDS THE FAMILY
- PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND DILIGENCE

SOCIAL MOOD IN POLAND

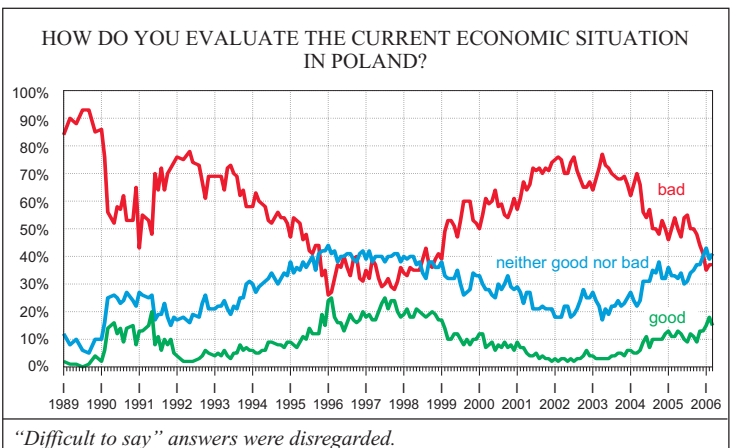
The parliamentary and presidential elections held in Poland last autumn contributed to an improvement of the social mood, which had been bad for quite a long time. The hopes associated with the formation of a new government, with the Prime Minister Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz, resulted in a further improvement of social sentiments. The upward trend in the social mood did not, however, last long. The opinions on various aspects of current situation started to deteriorate visibly. In March, more than half of the Poles (53%) believed that the situation in the country was heading in a wrong direction, while 32% expressed positive opinions in this respect.



The fact that the coalition between two parties leading in the elections - the Law and Justice (PiS) and the Civil Platform (PO) did not materialize, contrary to the pre-election promises, the resulting formation of a minority PiS government, the cooperation of PiS with parliamentary parties considered by many as populist and the recurring idea of calling a new parliamentary election, reversed the upward trend in the evaluations of the political situation and diminished the hopes for its improvement. In March, almost half of the respondents (47%) evaluated the political situation in Poland as bad, a third (34%) as "neither good nor bad" and 11% - as good.



The present shape of the Polish economy is quite good, partly due to the accession to the EU. The opinions on the economic situation are also more and more positive. For the first time since October 1998, the percentage of the respondents describing the Poland's economic situation as average ("neither good nor bad")



PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH CENTER - CBOS -
4a Żurawia
00-503 Warszawa
POLAND

Ph: (48 22) 629 35 69
(48 22) 628 37 04
(48 22) 693 46 91

Fax: (48 22) 629 40 89

E-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl
<http://www.cbos.pl>

Editors:
Krzysztof Zagórski
and Beata Roguska

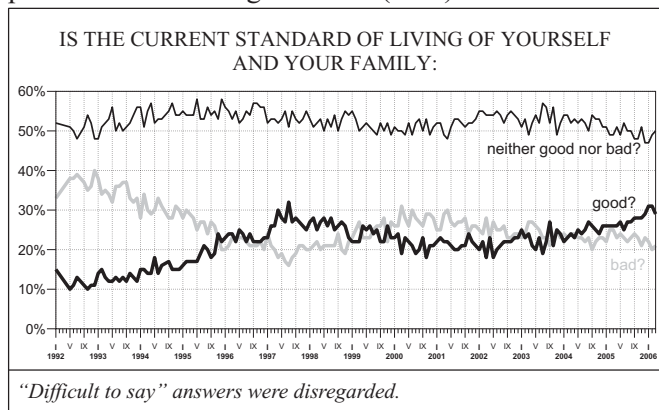
Translated by
Kinga Pawłowska

© COPYRIGHT BY CBOS 2006

ALL SOURCES MUST BE CREDITED
WHEN ANY PART OF THIS
PUBLICATION IS REPRODUCED

exceeded the percentage of those who described it as bad. In March, 15% of the respondents expressed positive opinions about the economic situation in Poland, 41% described this situation as average and 37% - as bad.

The evaluations of the standard of living are also improving slowly. In March, half of the respondents (50%) described the standard of living of their family as average. Among the others, the positive opinions (29%) prevailed over the negative ones (21%).

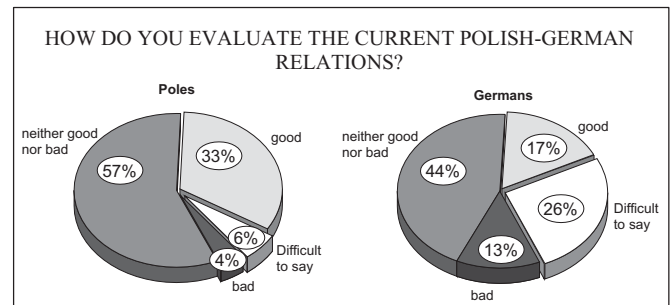


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Social moods in March*, March 2006. Survey executed in February 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1011.

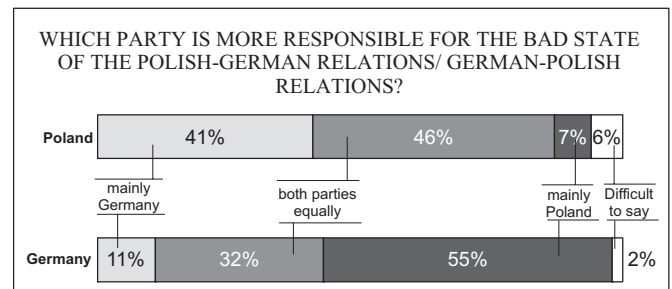
POLES AND GERMANS ABOUT THEIR MUTUAL RELATIONS

The Polish-German relations, which some commentators described a few years ago as the best in several centuries, have deteriorated somewhat during the last few years. They were negatively affected by the controversies about the proposed European Constitution as well as by the intervention in Iraq, the initiative of the German Union of the Expelled to build the Centre Against Expulsions and the German-Russian agreement about the construction of a gas pipeline under the Baltic Sea.

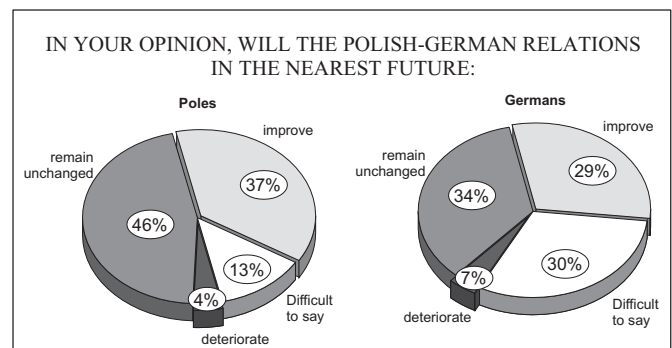
The opinion that current Polish-German relations are neither particularly good nor particularly bad, prevails both in Poland and in Germany. In general, however, the Poles perceive these relations in a much more positive light than the Germans. The percentage of those who see the relations between these two countries as good is twice as high in Poland as in Germany. The Germans describe these relations as bad three times as frequently as the Poles. The fact that a relatively high percentage of the Germans do not have an opinion about Polish-German relations is due to their lower interest in this issue as compared to the Poles.



The Poles who express negative opinions about Polish-German relations usually blame both parties or, slightly less frequently, the Germans. A majority of the Germans who are dissatisfied with the relations between the two countries blame the Poles.



Both the Poles and the Germans, when asked about the future of the relations between their two countries, usually say that they will remain unchanged, or (slightly less frequently) that they will improve. Fears of a deterioration of the mutual relations are rare.



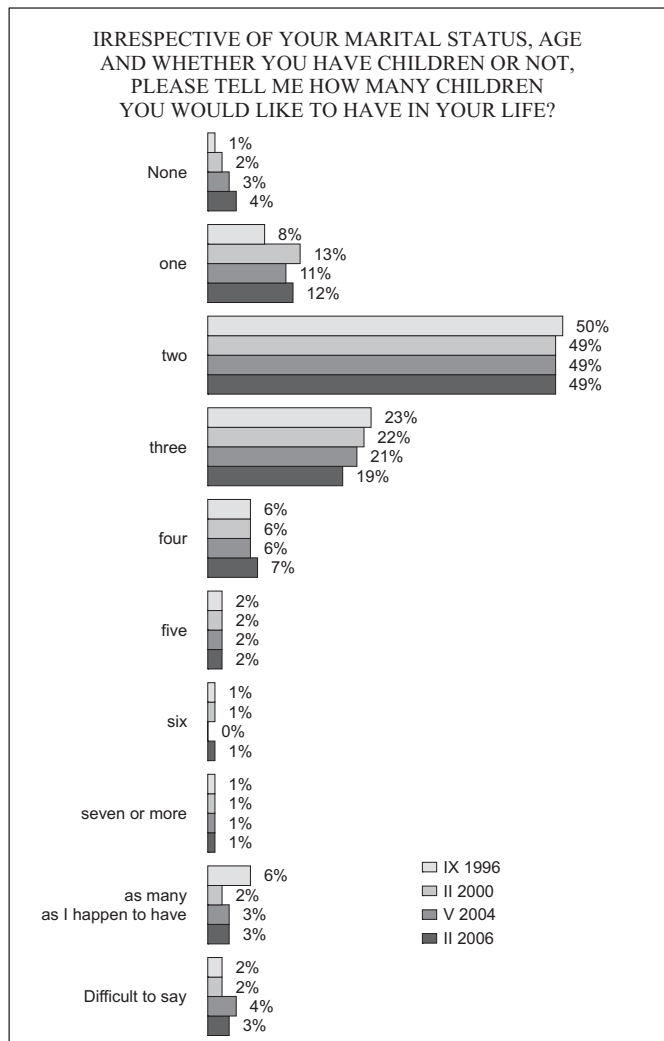
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Poles and Germans evaluate their mutual relations*, March 2006. Survey executed in December 2005. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1018. In Germany, the survey was executed in January 2006 by Institut für Demoskopie Allensbach on a sample N=984.

REPRODUCTIVE NEEDS AND PREFERRED FAMILY MODELS

The political and economic transformation in Poland is accompanied by such demographic changes as a drop in the number of marriages contracted, delaying a decision about marriage, an increase in the number of

divorces, a decrease in fertility rate and the establishment of a family model with one or two children. In 1990, at the onset of the transformation, the average number of children born to a woman during her reproductive years was 2.04, in 1995 it was 1.61, in 1998 1.43, and in 2003 only 1.22 (the lowest figure since the 1950s). The year 2004 was not much better, with the fertility rate at 1.23. Due to a drop in the number of births, Poland has had a negative birth rate in the last few years.

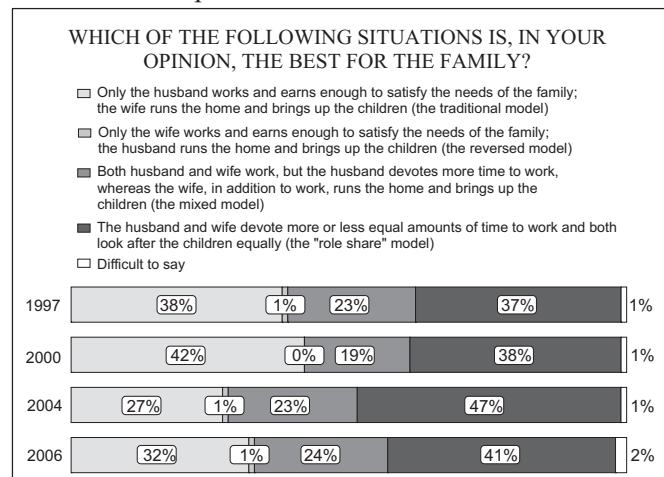
The declared reproductive needs of the Poles indicate that the present unfavourable trend should not be expected to reverse in the nearest future.



The reasons behind the falling number of births (preferred and actual) include the growing professional aspirations of women and the related decrease in the popularity of the traditional division of roles in the family, with the man as the sole provider and the woman as the homemaker. Since 2000, the proportion of those preferring the traditional marriage model has dropped by 10 percentage points, and the support for the model based on equal division of rights and responsibilities has grown.

Women clearly prefer the "role share" model to the traditional division of roles (47%). Men, on the other

hand, choose the traditional family model (37%) slightly more frequently than the "role share" model. The differences between the preferences of women and men are the biggest in the group of respondents with higher and secondary education, whereas among those with primary or trade school education gender has a smaller effect on these opinions.

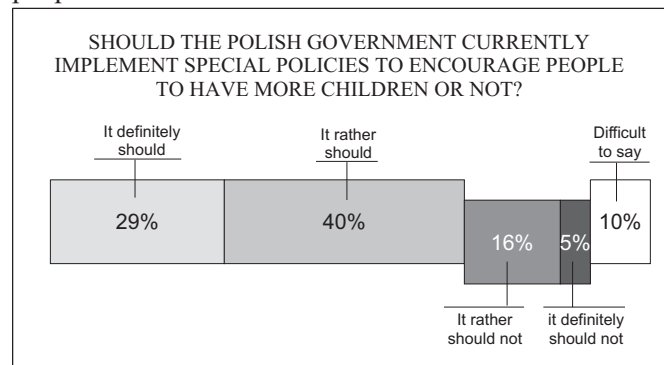


Equal division of responsibilities in a marriage is the most frequently preferred by childless persons or those who have one child. Parents of two children choose the "role share" model only slightly more frequently than the traditional model. The traditional model is preferred by those who have at least three children. Although the preferred marriage model depends on the number of children, the supporters of each of the four family models described above the most frequently declare that they would like to have two children.

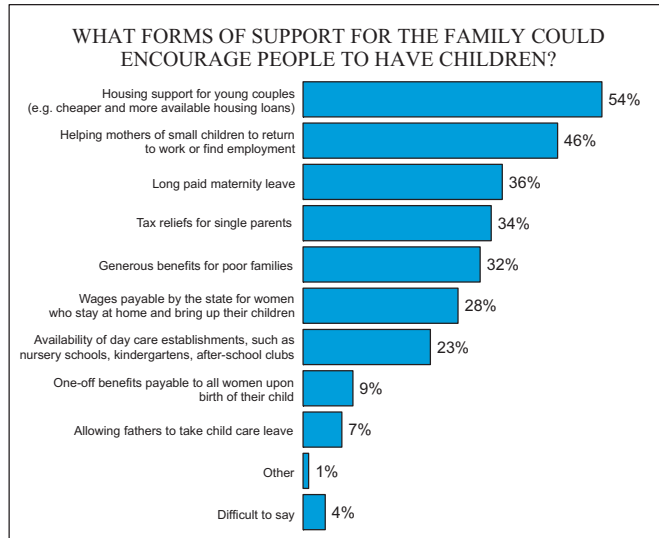
More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *Reproductive needs and the preferred and the actual family model*, March 2006. Survey executed in February 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1011.

THE POLICY OF THE STATE TOWARDS THE FAMILY

A definite majority of the Poles believe that the state should implement special policies to encourage people to have more children.



In the respondents' opinion, housing support for young couples and helping mothers of small children to return to work or find employment would be the best incentives.

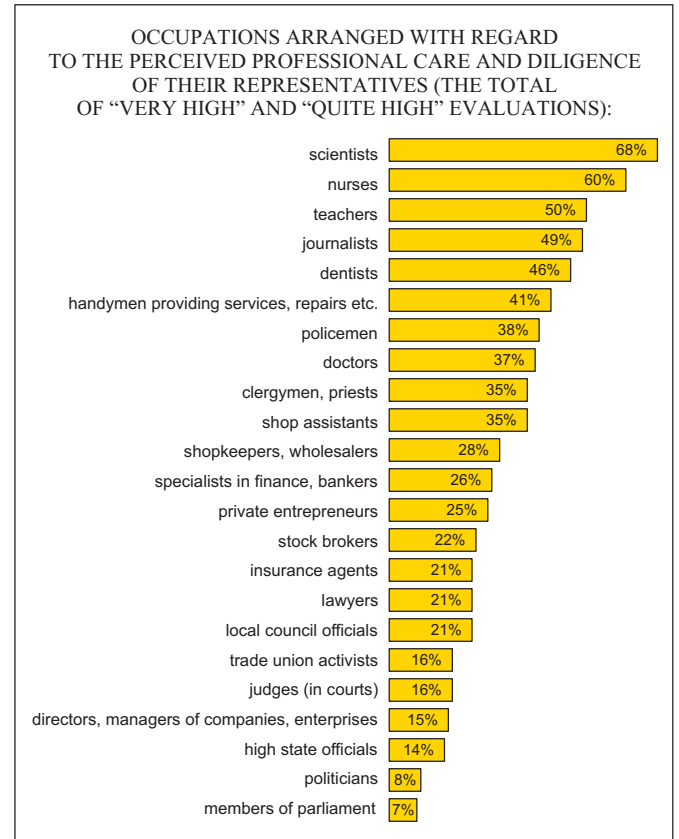


More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *The policy of the state towards the family and discrimination against pregnant women and mothers of small children at the workplace*, March 2006. Survey executed in February 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1011.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND DILIGENCE

Scientists and nurses are among the occupational groups which are seen as the most honest and diligent. A large part of the society also believe that teachers and

journalists observe high ethical standards. Politicians and members of parliament are perceived as the least ethical professions in Poland.



More information on this subject can be found in the CBOS report (in Polish): *About professional care and diligence*, March 2006. Survey executed in February 2006. A representative random sample of adult Poles. N=1011.

In addition to the reports referred to above, the following have been published recently (in Polish):

- ◆ Political party preferences in late February
- ◆ About professional diligence and fairness
- ◆ The Central Anti-Corruption Bureau
- ◆ Political party preferences in March
- ◆ The fear of bird flu
- ◆ The Poles about public opinion polls
- ◆ The situation on the job market and the threat of unemployment
- ◆ A drop in the support for the government
- ◆ The opinions about the work of the President and the Parliament
- ◆ Helping stray and wild animals
- ◆ The opinions about the Stabilization Pact
- ◆ Social responsibility of large companies - the public opinion in 33 countries
- ◆ Trust in politicians in March
- ◆ The attitude to unemployment and the unemployed
- ◆ The social range of unemployment in Poland
- ◆ Evaluations of the financial situation
- ◆ Observing the rights of animals in Poland

For more information on CBOS services and publications please contact:

CBOS POLAND
4a, Żurawia, 00-503 Warsaw
Phones: (48 22) 629 35 69, 628 37 04
Fax: (48 22) 629 40 89

e-mail: sekretariat@cbos.pl

<http://www.cbos.pl>

Yearly subscription rate for "Polish Public Opinion" is 80 USD

Circulation: 210 copies

CBOS expertise in providing professional, accurate and timely research has made us the leading authority in political, social and consumer research in Poland.