In the last year, we have seen both an increase in the number of Poles going abroad in search of work and a surge of returns. These migrations are probably the result of the economic crisis and destabilisation of labour markets.

Presently, in every tenth household in Poland there is someone working abroad. This is three percentage points more than last year and two years ago. Taking into account that there are about 14 million households in Poland, we can estimate that roughly 1.5 million Poles work outside their country (it is assumed that from each household only one person left and cases where whole households emigrated were not considered).

More than every ninth Pole (11%) declares that within the last 10 years he/she has been working abroad. One in a hundred (1%) admit that they are currently employed outside the country - these are the people who happened to be in Poland while the survey was conducted or they live in Poland but travel outside their country to work. The number of people who declare having worked abroad within the last 10 years has grown by 2 percentage points in comparison with last year and two years ago.

Taking into account that 1% of the surveyed people is roughly equivalent to 280 thousand of adult Poles, we can estimate that within the last 10 years about 3.3 million citizens of Poland have worked abroad (excluding those who work abroad and hence were absent during the survey). There is roughly the total of 4.8 million Poles who either work abroad presently or used to work abroad in the past within the last 10 years. Among this number there is nearly 1.5 million people who currently work outside Poland.

A vast majority of Poles who used to work abroad in the past 10 years or who currently work abroad declare employment in Germany. The second most popular work destination is Great Britain. Every sixth person used to work or still works there. A considerable number of people have been working in Italy, the Netherlands and France.

The responses of people declaring that they currently work abroad or used to work abroad in the last 10 years.
In the last year, the number of people interested in working abroad has increased. A year ago, 13% of adult Poles considered working outside their country, and presently 18% of respondents declare this (the same as in 2007). However, less than a half takes or intends to take steps to be employed abroad (7% overall). Others (11%) declare that they would consider working abroad if they received a job offer but would not take any steps themselves. In comparison with last year’s declarations only the percentage of those potentially interested in working abroad has increased (11%).

Over three quarters of professionally active people feel positive. The best assessments are for self-fulfilment.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: *Poles Working Abroad*, November 2009. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2009, N=1096. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

### JOB SATISFACTION

A vast majority of professionally active Poles (78%) are satisfied with their job. The remainder (11%) assess it negatively or are ambivalent about the subject (11%). The percentage of people satisfied with their employment rose significantly between 1998 and 2006 and since then it has remained fairly stable.

Opinions about jobs are varied, but mainly positive. The best assessments are for self-fulfilment. Over three quarters of professionally active people feel that their tasks are important and meaningful. Slightly fewer respondents consider their job to be interesting and challenging (i.e. requires them to develop their skills and knowledge). Nearly two thirds admit that their job gives them a sense of safety and stability. The majority of people declare also that their job allows them to fully use their qualifications and is appropriate to their education.

Financial aspects are assessed worse. Two -fifths of professionally active people are satisfied with their income. A similar number declare that their job involves satisfactory social security benefits. However, income and social benefits satisfaction rate increase with time.

---

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING ABROAD PRESENTLY?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**IN GENERAL, ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH YOUR JOB?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither satisfied</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**DOES (IS) YOUR PRESENT JOB …**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Give you the sense that your tasks are important and meaningful</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interesting</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Give you the sense that your tasks are important and meaningful</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allow you to fully use your qualifications</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriate to your education</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide good income</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Give satisfactory social security benefits</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

"Don't know" omitted.

In general, the respondents working in public institutions are most satisfied with their work. The only element they assess slightly worse than the average is their income. Job satisfaction below the average is characteristic of people working in the private sector (excluding agriculture) and companies in mixed (state and private) ownership. In these two categories however, the respondents are more satisfied with their income than the respondents from the remaining groups. Least content with their work are people employed in private farms. The assessment of their income is noticeably worse than the other groups.'
The highest rate of job satisfaction can be observed among managers, specialists with higher education and the self-employed. Slightly less satisfied are technicians, middle management and administrative staff. Satisfaction below average can be noticed among farmers and unskilled workers.

Job satisfaction rate depends mostly on whether people find their work interesting and their tasks meaningful and having a purpose. Slightly less important are such factors as: income, the possibility to fully use one's qualifications, environment for developing one's qualifications and the sense of employment security. Relatively less significant are social security benefits and whether the employment is appropriate to one's education.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: November 2009, Fieldwork: October 2009, N=1096. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

### LOCAL IDENTITY

The basic unit with which the majority of Poles (61%) identify with is their local community. Poland comes second, with every fifth respondent (19%) declaring identification with their country. Only every eighth respondent (12%) mostly identifies him/herself with his/her region. Few respondents (3%) admit that they associate themselves with Europe. In the last 5 years, the number of people identifying themselves with their local community or locality have increased noticeably (by 8 percentage points). The percentage of respondents associating themselves with their region has remained, overall, constant. Identification primarily with Poland and identification primarily with Europe also remain the same as in 2004. It appears that after 5 years of membership in the European Union the sense of attachment to one's country is not weakened and the number of people defining their identity as primarily European did not increase.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: Local Identity, November 2009. Fieldwork: October 2009, N=1096. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

### ATTITUDES TOWARDS ELDERLY PEOPLE

The problem of ageing society has been growing in Poland for some years. It is the result of lower birth-rates and longer life-expectancy. By the end of 2008,
More people than a few years ago notice expressions of kindness for the elderly in their surroundings. Over four fifths believe that elderly people are treated with kindness. Others usually notice indifference and only few respondents mentioned that old people are treated with dislike by their surroundings.

Quality of life

Senior people are most kindly treated within three social circles: family, neighbours and parish community. Kindness towards the elderly is perceived to be visibly less frequent in shops and their former work places. In these two settings less than a half notices kind attitude towards elderly people.

Respondents observe a predominance of negative attitude towards old people in health-care institutions, offices, public transport, on the streets. Such attitude can be perceived among young people as well. The worst situation is in public transport and on the streets.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: Attitudes towards Elderly People and Ageing, November 2009. Fieldwork: November 2009, N=1022. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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

- Poles About Hospices and Palliative Care
- Party Preferences in November
- Social Moods in November
- Drop in the Government Ratings
- Opinions About President, Parliament, ZUS, ABW and CBA
- Trust in Politicians in November

CBOS expertise in providing professional, accurate and timely research has made us the leading authority in political, social and consumer research 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: 70 copies