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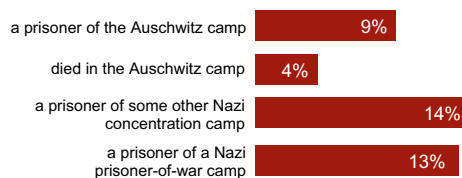
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE,  
THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED  
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- Social Moods in 2019 - Synthetic Measures
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- The Year 2019 Marked by Elections and Fears of Climate Change

## Auschwitz-Birkenau in the collective memory, 75 years after liberation

The Auschwitz camp is a symbol of genocide committed by Germans during World War II. In 2005, the UN General Assembly established the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, and its date was set for January 27, the day when Soviet soldiers opened the gates of KL Auschwitz.

### Was anyone from your family, relatives or people close to you:



their relatives was a prisoner of Auschwitz, and four out of a hundred (4%) lost a family member there.

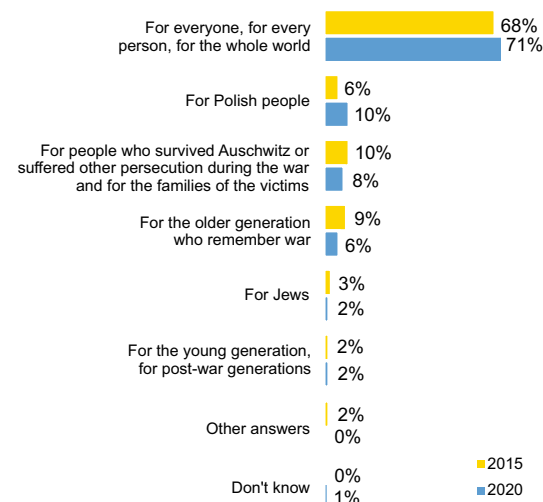
The Auschwitz-Birkenau camp museum in Oświęcim was visited by over half of respondents (55%). The visitors were more often people for whom this place is associated with family history (someone close to them was a prisoner or died in Auschwitz-Birkenau) than others who did not have such mediated experiences (72% vs. 53%).

In the opinion of over seven-tenths (71%), the memory of Auschwitz is now of universal importance: it is important for every person, all over the world. One-tenth (10%) consider the memory of this largest Nazi camp as important mainly for Poles, and eight out of one hundred (8%) think it matters for those who were imprisoned there or experienced other persecutions during World War II and for the families of the victims. Slightly fewer (6%) emphasize the importance of remembrance of Auschwitz for the older generation who remember the war. Relatively few believe that it is important above all for Jews (2%) or for young, post-war generations (2%). Over the past five years, the belief in the universality of Auschwitz symbolism has strengthened, and at the same time there are more people pointing to its significance for Poles. However, there are fewer people who think that it belongs to the past and is important mainly for people who remember the war.

The names "Oświęcim / Auschwitz" are primarily associated with the place of martyrdom of the Polish nation (43%), and slightly less often, with the Holocaust of Jews (38%). Taking into account the twenty-five-year perspective, it can be

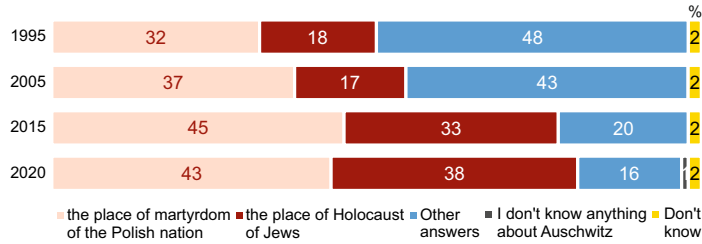
For more than a quarter of Poles, Auschwitz or other Nazi concentration and prisoner-of-war camps are part of the family history (for 27%, or for 21% if only concentration camps are included). Almost one-tenth of respondents (9%) declare that one of

### For whom is the memory of Oświęcim / Auschwitz important today?



seen that more and more often this place is associated primarily with Holocaust of Jews.

**What do you primarily associate the word "Oświęcim / Auschwitz" with? Is it primarily...**



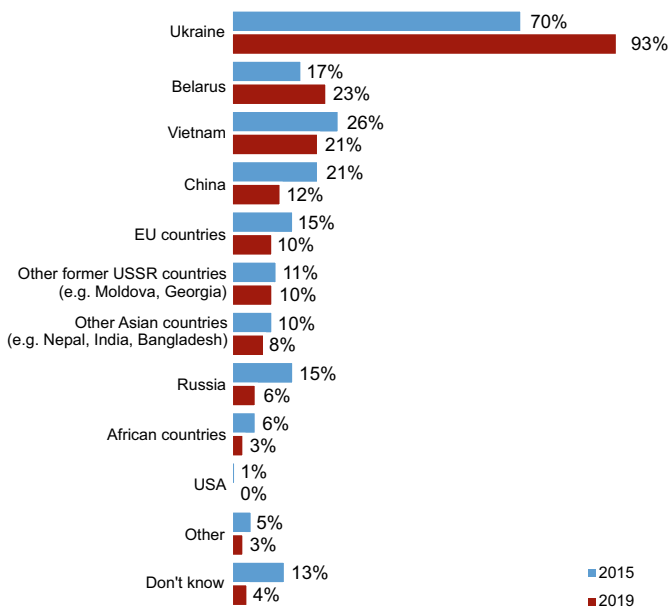
Other associations formulated by the respondents with the words "Oświęcim / Auschwitz" usually refer to the place of martyrdom or extermination of both Jews and Poles (70%), many different nationalities (20%), or generally to destruction, tragedy, the crime of Nazism without distinguishing any nationality (11%).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Auschwitz-Birkenau in Collective Memory – 75 Years after Liberation", January 2019. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2020, N=1016. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Employment of foreigners in Poland

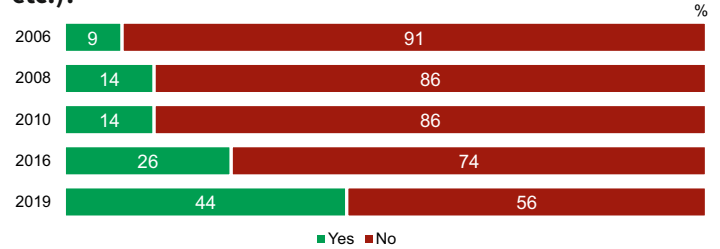
Poles have noticed the recent influx of Ukrainians to Poland, and among the three most numerous groups of foreigners, apart from Ukrainians, they mention Belarusians and Vietnamese. Social perception regarding the country of origin of foreigners residing in Poland is largely consistent with official data, according to which Ukrainians, and then Belarusians, Germans, Russians and Vietnamese register most often to stay in our country.

**There are more and more foreigners (people without Polish citizenship) living in Poland. Citizens of which countries, in your opinion, are currently most common in Poland? Up to 3 answers possible.**



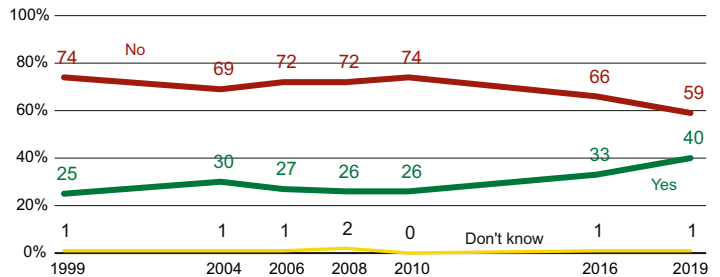
Half of Poles (49%) come into contact with foreigners working in Poland at least once a week while shopping or using various types of services. More than one-eighth (7%) declare having used paid assistance of a foreigner (e.g. for housework, renovation, childcare) or employed a foreigner, e.g. on a construction site or in agriculture. Since 2016, the number of respondents who know someone employing a foreigner personally has increased from 26 to 44%.

**Do you personally know someone employing a foreigner (e.g. as a home help, babysitter, nurse, employee on a construction site or during renovation, in agriculture, etc.)?**



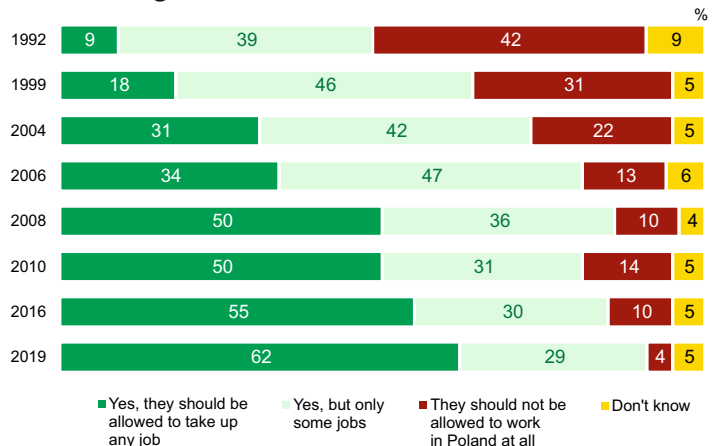
The percentage of respondents who have a friend from another country living in Poland has increased from 33% to 40%. Such acquaintances are characteristic of inhabitants of urban agglomerations, executives and specialists with higher education.

**Do you know personally a foreigner living in Poland?**



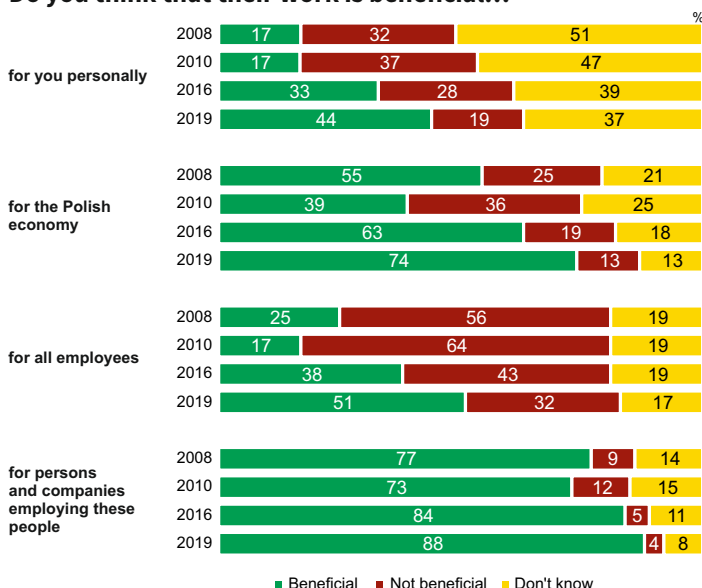
Currently, the majority of respondents (62%) are in favour of foreigners taking up work in Poland freely. Less than a third (29%) believe that job opportunities for foreigners should be limited: it would be best if only certain types of work were available to them. Only a small number think that foreigners should not be allowed to work in Poland at all. Since 1992, acceptance of foreigners taking up work in Poland has been steadily increasing.

**Should foreigners be allowed to work in Poland?**



Since 2010, Poles have become much more supportive of the work of non-EU foreigners in our country. The vast majority of respondents believe that people and companies employing them (81%) and the Polish economy (74%) benefit from the work of non-EU foreigners. More than half (51%) believe that the work of non-EU foreigners is beneficial for all employed persons, and more than two-fifths (44%) see benefits for themselves personally.

**In Poland, non-EU citizens from countries such as Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, as well as Nepal and India take up work. Do you think that their work is beneficial...**



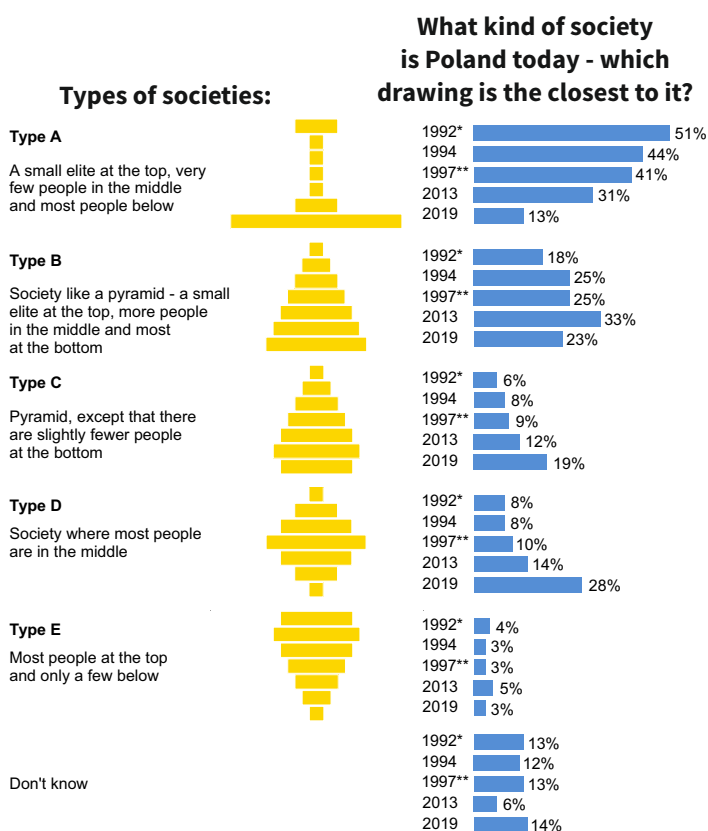
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Foreigners Working in Poland", January 2019. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2019, N=944. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Perception of social structure

Recent years have been a period of rapid improvement in the living conditions of Poles. Disposable income per person increased from 1,299 PLN in 2013 to 1,693 PLN in 2018, and the minimum wage increased from 1,600 PLN (pre-tax) to 2,250 PLN in 2019 (currently it is 2,600 PLN). Three years ago, a minimum hourly rate was introduced, which also increases dynamically - in 2017 it was 13 PLN (pre-tax), in 2019 it was 14.7 PLN, and currently it is 17 PLN. The unemployment rate has also dropped significantly in recent years. In September 2013, the registered unemployment rate reached 13%, while in November 2019 it was 5.1%. In addition, the Family 500 plus program has been operating since April 2016, under which parents or guardians receive parental benefit in the amount of 500 PLN per child. Initially, the income criterion for the first child was in force, from July 2019 the benefit is granted to all children. The improvement of objective indicators is reflected in the subjective perception of material position. In recent years, the assessment of the material conditions of households, perceptions of the condition of workplaces

and the situation on the labour market have improved significantly. A noticeable improvement in living conditions has changed the perception of social structure.

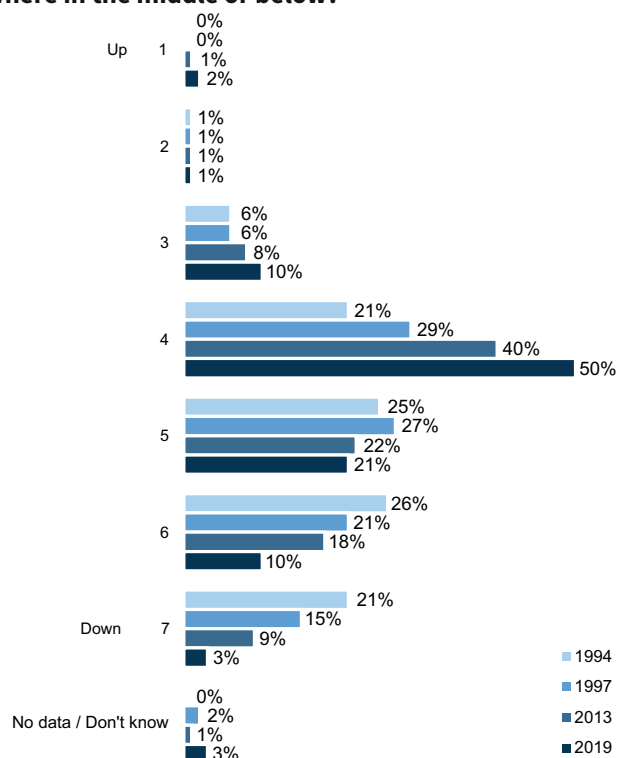
For the first time in the history of CBOS research, the most frequently chosen model for describing society is the one in which the largest is the medium layer (type D). Still, people perceiving society in this way belong to a minority (28%), and a significant group of respondents (42% in total) believe that social structure is best represented by pyramid-like models, in which the layers below are more numerous (type B and type C). Currently, less frequently than six years ago and far less often than in the nineties, a model resembling a column with a very broad base crowned with capital (type A, 13%) is chosen to describe society. It presents a society with high contrasts, with most people occupying the lowest stratum.



\* data from comparative research of the International Social Survey Program  
 \*\* Data from the study of the Australian National University and the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences

Over the past six years, the perception of one's own place in the social structure has improved significantly. Half of respondents (10 percentage points more than in 2013 and 29 points more than in 1994) place themselves and their family in the middle of the social ladder. The others are much more often below, than above the middle (34% vs. 13%). It is worth noting that numerical prevalence of self-placement below the middle over self-placement above has been gradually decreasing since we have monitored this issue. In 1994 there were ten times more people subjectively situated below the middle than above, three years later there were nine times more, in 2013 nearly five times, and now about three times more.

## Where would you place yourself and your family: above, somewhere in the middle or below?



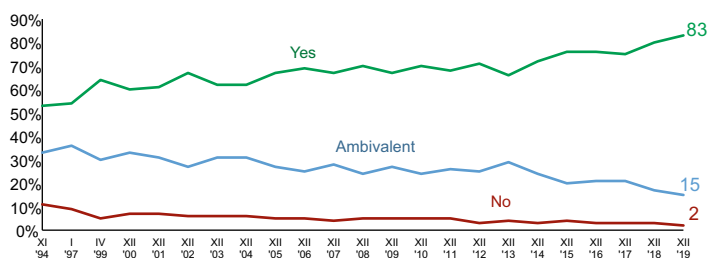
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Perception of Social Structure", January 2019. Fieldwork for national sample: November 2019, N=944. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

## Satisfaction with life

Poles are satisfied with their life more often than a year ago and most often in the history of CBOS research of this matter, i.e. since 1994. Currently, 83% of respondents are satisfied with their lives. Nearly one in seven (15%) declares average life satisfaction, while two out of a hundred (2%) declare dissatisfaction.

Relatively the most satisfied with life are people aged 25 to 34, the best educated, managers and specialists, administrative and office employees, technicians and mid-level employees, skilled workers, respondents who obtain the highest income per capita and assess their own financial situation well, and also those most involved in religious practices. On the other hand, the least satisfied are respondents who live in bad material living conditions and declare the lowest income, people aged 65 and over, unskilled workers as well as the disabled and the unemployed.

## In general, are you satisfied with your whole life?

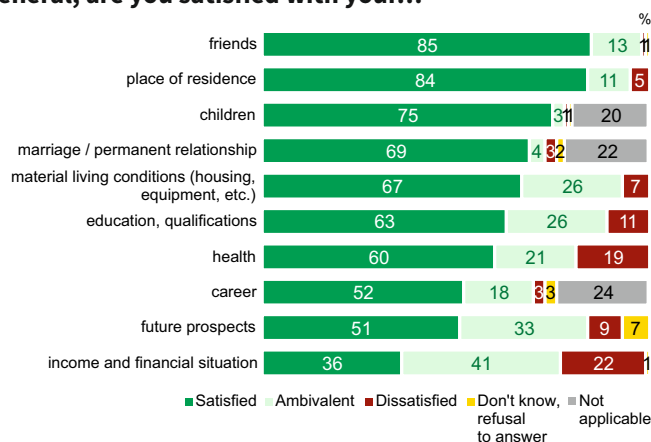


"Don't know" omitted.

For most Poles, social life and family relationship are a source of satisfaction. The vast majority of respondents declare satisfaction with friends and close acquaintances (85%), three-quarters are happy with their children (75% in total, and 95% among parents), and over two-thirds are positive about their marriage or an informal permanent relationship (69% in total, and 90% among people in a relationship). Poles are generally satisfied with their place of residence (84%). Satisfaction with material conditions, e.g. housing, furnishings, is expressed by two-thirds (67%). Respondents clearly are less satisfied with their income. Over a third (36%) are satisfied, while more than a fifth (22%) are dissatisfied, and two-fifths (41%) express an ambivalent opinion in this respect.

Almost two-thirds (63%) feel good about their education and qualifications, and more than half are satisfied with their work (52% in total, and 71% among those who have ever worked). Six out of ten adults (60%) declare satisfaction with their health. Every second Pole (51%) is confident about their future prospects.

## In general, are you satisfied with your...



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Life Satisfaction", January 2019. Fieldwork for national sample: December 2019, N=910. The random address sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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