

# PUBLICOPINION

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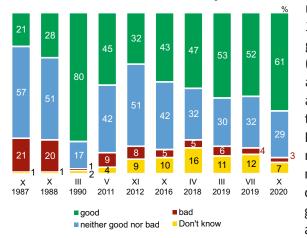
TO THE REPORTS REFERRED TO ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED RECENTLY (IN POLISH):

- Attitude towards New Political Initiatives: Poland 2050 by Szymon Holownia and New Solidarity by Rafal Trzaskowski
- School Students Summer Vacations during a Pandemic
- Financial Situation of Households
- Fear of Coronavirus and Evaluation of Government Actions
- Moods on the Job Market at the End of September and in the First Week of October
- Opinions about Parliament and President
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- Social Moods at the Turn of September and October
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- Religiousness of Poles During a Pandemic
- Political Party Preferences in the Last Decade of October

### Opinions on the elections in the USA

Recent years have been a period of deepening cooperation between Poland and the United States, primarily in the field of defence and energy. One of the goals of the Polish policy is strategic cooperation with the United States, which serves to strengthen the military and energy security of our country. The mutual will to develop these relations was demonstrated by numerous meetings at the highest level, including visits of the presidents of both countries, which were widely reported in the media. For the Polish public opinion, the long-awaited inclusion of Poland in the visa-free regime in November last year was also of great importance.

### How do you evaluate the current Polish-American relations? Are they:



Overall, 61% of respondents assess Polish-American relations as good (including 14% who think they are very good). More than one-fourth (29%) believe that they are average: neither good nor bad, and only a few (3%) describe them as bad. Evaluations of Polish-American relations are now best since 1990, when as many as 80% of respondents described mutual relations as good. In the last decade, the assessments of Polish-

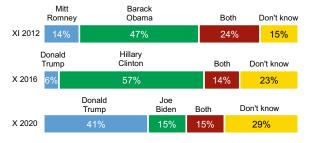
American relations have changed dynamically: the worst opinions on this subject were recorded in November 2012, when a third (32%) considered them good. In the following years, they gradually improved.

Poles feel that the result of the presidential election in the USA is very important. Almost three quarters (73% in total) believe that it is important for Poland who becomes the president of the United States, in which nearly one-fourth (24%) consider it very important.

Four years ago, when Hilary Clinton and Donald Trump were running for the office of the president of the United States, the majority of Poles (57%) were convinced that, from Poland's perspective, it would be better if the Democratic

candidate won. Only a few (6%) preferred Donald Trump. Over the past four years, Poles have become largely convinced of the merits of the incumbent president. Over two-fifths (41%) believe that Donald Trump would be a better president than Joe Biden, representing the

## Which candidate would be, from Poland's perspective, a better president of the United States?



Democratic Party (15% of responses). A large group of respondents (29%) do not have an opinion on this matter, and 15% do not prefer either of the candidates. It seems that despite Joe Biden being Barack Obama's vice president for two terms, he is little known to the public in Poland.

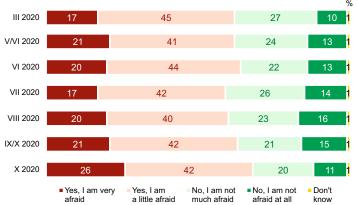
Preferences regarding the outcome of the US elections largely depend on political orientation. Respondents identifying with the right have a clear-cut view on this matter: 70% of them believe that, from Poland's point of view, Donald Trump would be a better president of the United States. People declaring left-wing political views are more ambivalent: 38% think that Joe Biden would be a better president, and 21% choose the incumbent.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Polish Public Opinion about Presidential Election in USA", November 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: September/October 2020, N=1133. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

# Coronavirus concerns and the assessment of government actions

In October, the number of confirmed cases of coronavirus infection in Poland increased sharply. Fears of coronavirus infection have also increased. The possibility of infection worries 68% of all Poles (5 percentage points more than at the turn of September and October), including strong concerns expressed by a fourth of respondents (26%, an increase by 5 points).



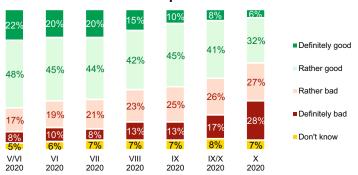


The level of fear of infection depends primarily on age. The older the respondents, the more they are worried about the possibility of contracting the virus. In recent weeks, concerns about infection among young people have also been growing. They are expressed by half of people under 35 years of age. Among those aged 55 and over, the vast majority (83% in total) fear it.

The increasing number of infections is reflected in evaluations of government work. Opinions about the

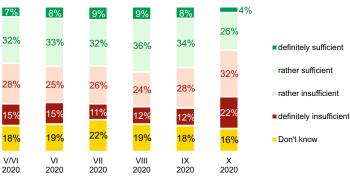
government's effectiveness in fighting the epidemic have deteriorated significantly in recent weeks. In previous months, despite the continuous deterioration, the prevailing view about the government's actions to combat the epidemic was positive. Currently, opinions on this subject have reversed: the dominant view is that the government is dealing with the epidemic badly (55%). The government's efforts are appreciated by 38% of respondents.

### In general, how do you evaluate government's efforts to combat the coronavirus epidemic in Poland?



The deterioration of the epidemic situation and increasing restrictions on economic activity necessitate further actions aimed at supporting enterprises and employees. While in September slightly more people assessed state aid for companies and employees as sufficient (42% in total) than insufficient (40%), now the perception of the situation of companies has clearly deteriorated. Only 30% of respondents believe that enterprises and employees receive sufficient support. More than half (54%) believe that the government's actions in this area are inadequate.

### Are government actions to help Polish companies and their employees:



More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Fear of Coronavirus and Evaluation of Government Actions", October 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: October 2020, N=1140. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

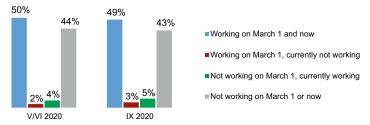
# Professional situation of Poles during the coronavirus epidemic

So far, the economic crisis related to the pandemic has increased unemployment to a limited extent. According to Central Statistical Office (GUS), the registered

unemployment rate in Poland increased from 5.4% in March to 6.1% in September.

Comparing the professional status of respondents on the eve of the epidemic with the current situation, it can be observed that three out of a hundred Poles (3%) in paid employment on March 1 this year (working on a labour contract, running their own company or farm or performing work commissioned on the basis of a civil contract) are currently not working. Five out of one hundred (5%) of those unemployed at that time now have a job. For the remaining 92% of the respondents, i.e. 49% of the employed and 43% of the unemployed, their current professional status is the same as at the beginning of March. Although the current results are similar to those recorded at the turn of May and June, it can be noticed that the percentage of respondents whose professional situation has changed since March 1 has slightly increased.

#### Paid employment on March 1 2020 and currently.

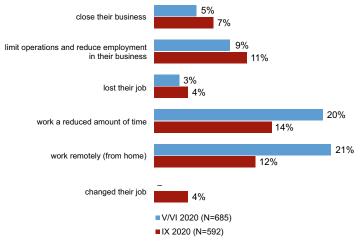


Young people under 24 (7%) and inhabitants of small towns of less than 20,000 (6%) are more often than on average among those who lost their jobs between the beginning of March and the survey date.

The impact of the coronavirus epidemic on professional life is now felt by a total of one-third of respondents who had an income at its very beginning, i.e. March 1 this year (34%). Compared to the turn of May and June, the number of people who lost their jobs due to the epidemic increased slightly, while the percentage of those working part-time and remotely significantly decreased.

### 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 ...



More than a tenth (11% compared to 9% at the turn of May and June) had to scale down business and reduce employment in their company, and seven out of one hundred (7% compared to 5%) had to close the company. Due to the epidemic, 14% of respondents are working on reduced workload, compared to 20% at the turn of May and June, and four out of a hundred (4% compared to 3%) lost their jobs. Four out of a hundred respondents (4%) changed jobs during the epidemic. About one-eighth (12% against 21% at the turn of May and June) work remotely from home.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Professional Situation of Poles during Coronavirus Epidemic", October 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2020, N=1149. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

# Summer tourism during the pandemic

At the turn of May and June, 42% of Poles intended to travel this summer for recreational or tourist purposes for at least 2 days. Half did not plan such trips, and 8% had not yet made a decision. In September, it turned out that only 38% of adult Poles went on such trips, which is 4 percentage points less than planned at the beginning of this year's vacation. It is also worth recalling that at the beginning of 2020, almost two-thirds (64%) of adult Poles declared that they intended to travel this year for leisure or tourist purposes for at least 2 days. It can be assumed that the majority of these trips were planned for the summer period, so it should be expected that the entire year 2020 will be characterized by a significant decrease in the tourist activity of Poles.

### Do you plan to travel for leisure or tourism for at least 2 days this summer? \*



### Did you travel for leisure or tourism for at least 2 days this summer?\*



<sup>\*</sup> The question is about trips with at least one overnight stay.

In January 2020, 55% of adult Poles planning trips this year with at least one overnight stay said that they intended to remain only in the country, whereas 38% wanted to go abroad, of which 10% wanted to go abroad only. At the turn of May and June, 80% of those planning a summer holiday trip said that they only considered domestic trips. A total of 16% of those planning summer holiday trips were thinking about foreign destinations, of which only 5% wanted to rest abroad only. Thus, at the

threshold of the summer holiday season, a change in preferences was noticeable from trips abroad to domestic destinations.

After the end of the summer holidays, it turned out that in fact the Poles who decided to go on holiday this summer chose a domestic destination to an even greater extent than in the pre-holiday plans. As many as 86% of holidaymakers spent their summer holidays only in Poland.

#### Where do you plan to spend your vacation this summer?\*

Responses of people declaring their intention to go on vacation for at least two days (N = 545).



#### Where did you spend your vacation this summer?

Responses of people declaring a vacation for at least two days (N = 434).



\* The question is about trips with at least one overnight stay.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Summer Tourism during Pandemic", October 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: September 2020, N=1149. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

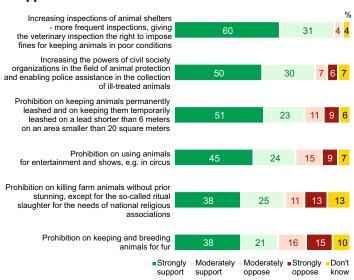
# Opinions on changes in animal protection

Law and Justice (PiS) has prepared a draft amendment to the Act on the Protection of Animals, referred to as "five laws for animals", whose main and most controversial provisions are the prohibition on keeping and breeding animals for fur and on slaughtering farm animals without prior stunning.

Poles to a greater or lesser extent support the most important legislative proposals to amend the Animal Protection Act. The least diverse opinions are about: 1) increasing the control of animal shelters, consisting in more frequent inspections than before and giving the veterinary inspection the right to impose fines for keeping animals in poor conditions, and 2) increasing the powers of civil society organizations in the field of animal protection and enabling the police to assist them in

collecting mistreated animals. These proposals enjoy the support of the vast majority of respondents (91% and 80% respectively). Three-quarters of Poles (74%) are in favour of a ban on permanent leashing and temporary leashing of animals on a lead shorter than 6 meters on an area smaller than 20 square meters. The law prohibiting the use of animals for entertainment purposes, such as in circus, is supported by over two-thirds of respondents (69%). Almost two-thirds of Poles (63%) support the ban on killing farm animals without prior stunning (except for the so-called ritual slaughter for the needs of local religious associations). The attitude to the ban on breeding animals for fur is the most ambiguous: it is supported by nearly six out of ten respondents (59%), and opposed by less than a third (31%).

Here are some proposed changes to the Animal Protection Act. For each of them, please specify whether you support or oppose them.



In case of all the proposed changes, people working on private farms are characterized by the highest level of opposition. Contrary to the opinion of all respondents, most of them disapprove of the ban on fur farms (55% against, 32% expressing approval), and in the case of slaughter without anaesthesia, their votes are almost evenly divided (40% for and 43% against). It is noteworthy that rural residents as a whole do not differ significantly from the general public.

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Opinions on Changes in Animals Protection", October 2020. Fieldwork for national sample: September/October 2020, N=1133. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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