

POLISH PUBLICOPINION Solid and Professional 2/2022

CONTENTS

Attitude to other nationalities

Opinions on tax changes

Public opinion on surveillance

Holiday travel in 2021

IN ADDITION

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

- The Most Important Event of the Year 2021 for Poland and for the World
- Activities and Experiences of Poles in 2021
- About the Increase in the Number of Poles who do not Identify neither with the Government nor the Opposition
- Political Party Preferences in February
- Opinions about Parliament and President
- Social Moods in February
- Moods on the Job Market in the First Decade of February
- Attitude to Government in February
- Coronavirus Fears, Attitude towards Vaccination, Evaluation of Government Policy
- Visiting Religious Websites and Services – Situation during Pandemic
- Trust in Politicians in February

As shown by the results of the survey carried out in January this year (i.e. before the outbreak of the war in Ukraine), the nations most liked by Poles are: Italians,

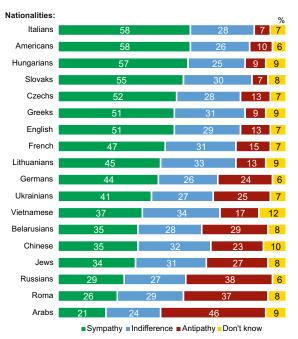
Attitude to other nationalities

Americans, Hungarians and Slovaks, with more than half of adults feeling positive towards them. A slightly smaller percentage, but also more than 50%, likes Czechs, Greeks and the English. Relatively few respondents declare their aversion to the nations mentioned so far. Almost half of respondents have a positive attitude towards the French and Lithuanians, and a negative attitude towards them is declared by a far smaller group. Sympathy also prevails in case of Germans, Ukrainians and the Vietnamese, as well as Belarusians, Chinese and Jews.

Negative feeling is expressed more often than sympathy towards the other nations included in the survey. Nearly two-fifths approach Russians and the Roma warily, and only slightly more than one-fourth declare a friendly attitude towards them. Almost half have a reluctant attitude towards Arabs, while one in five expresses sympathy for them.

After last year's improvement in attitudes towards many nations, presumably related to the coronavirus pandemic, in the face of which the feeling of

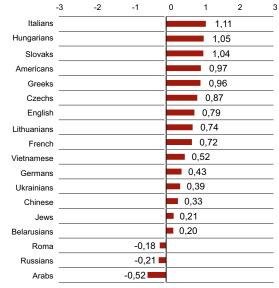
Attitude to other nationalities



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Attitude to other nationalities.

Average values on the scale from -3 (max. antipathy) to +3 (max. sympathy)



solidarity with others strengthened, this year we register a certain deterioration. This year's results are, however, for most nations no worse than those of 2020. Compared to 2021, the greatest negative changes occurred in relation to Belarusians (a decline in people declaring sympathy by 12 percentage points, with a simultaneous increase in dislike also by 12 percentage points), Czechs (a drop in sympathy by 11 points, with a simultaneous increase in dislike by 5 percentage points) and Russians (a decrease in sympathy by 6 points, with a simultaneous increase in dislike by 3 percentage points). Compared to the previous measurement, we have also recorded a clear drop in sympathy for Slovaks (also by 6 percentage points), while the level of dislike for this nation practically did not change.

Changes in attitude to Poland's neighbours. Average values on the scale from -3 (max. antipathy) to +3 (max. sympathy).



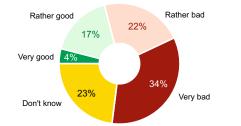
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Attitudes towards Other Nation", February 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: January 2022, N=1135. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Opinions on tax changes

In 2022, changes in the tax system entered into force as part of the Polish Deal program. The government argues that these changes are beneficial to most taxpayers, especially people with low incomes.

Every fifth respondent assessed the changes introduced in the tax system as positive (21%), and over half (56%) as negative. Relatively many, i.e. nearly a quarter of respondents (23%), do not yet have an opinion on these tax changes.

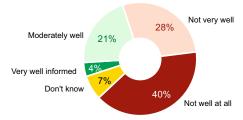
In 2022, changes in the tax system entered into force as part of the Polish Deal program. How do you evaluate the changes introduced?



The overall assessment of changes in the tax system is influenced by the expected profits or losses associated with it, subjective knowledge of the solutions introduced and experience in the workplace.

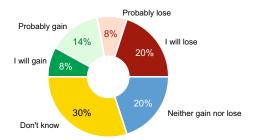
Most respondents (68%) feel badly informed about the changes in taxes that have been in force from this year.

Do you feel well informed about the tax changes that have been in force from this year?



More than one-fifths think that they will benefit from changes (22%), more or less the same number believe that they will neither gain nor lose (20%), and more than one-fourth expect to lose (28%). A significant part of respondents are not able to assess whether the introduced changes will be beneficial for them or not (30%).

Will you personally gain or lose from these tax changes?



Gains will accrue, according to responses to: older respondents, aged 55 or more (especially aged 65+; 47%), people with primary or lower secondary education (38%), people with a net monthly personal income of less than PLN 2,000 (39% –40% depending on the category). In the socio-professional groups, the winners are pensioners (47%). On the other hand, losses are reported most often by people aged 25-44 (37% -38%), living in the largest cities (40%), the better educated, especially university graduates (45%), people with a net personal income of at least PLN 4,000 (56%). In the socio-professional groups, the losers are most often company owners (57%), as well as managerial staff and specialists with higher education (51%).

The introduction of changes to the tax system meant that sometimes difficulties arose with the correct calculation of remuneration or their timely payment. One-fifth of employees noticed that such problems occurred in their companies or workplaces.

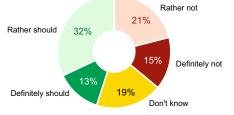
More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "The Polish Deal in Practice – Initial Opinions and Evaluations", February 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2022, N=1065. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Public opinion on surveillance

Recently, there has been information about the surveillance of public persons by special services using the Pegasus spyware, including the political opponents of the current government. Three-fourths of respondents (75%) heard about the surveillance of public figures in Poland using the Pegasus system, most often the better educated people who follow what is happening in the country more closely.

Among the respondents who have heard about the surveillance of public figures using the Pegasus system, the prevailing opinion is that Polish secret services should be able to use this type of software in their operational work (45%). More than one in three people who have heard about the use of Pegasus by special services (36%) are against the possibility of using such operational techniques.

Should Polish secret services be able to use such software as Pegasus in their operational work?



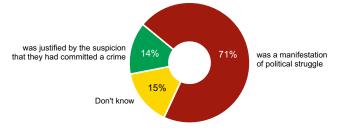
Answers of people who have heard about the use of the Pegasus system for surveillance of public figures.

Opinions on this subject are differentiated primarily by the political orientation and party preferences. The possibility of using such a system as Pegasus in operational work is supported mainly by respondents declaring right-wing political views (62%), while it is advocated much less often those who identify themselves with the left (35%) or describe their views as centrist (41%). In the party electorates, the majority of Law and Justice (PiS) voters (70%) support the use of systems such as Pegasus. Among the supporters of the opposition, the consent to use such programs is much lower. According to the sociodemographic characteristics, the attitude to using such a system as Pegasus is determined primarily by gender. It is much more likely to be supported by men (55% of those who have heard about Pegasus surveillance support its use) than women (36% for, 43% against). Relatively high support for the use of programs such as Pegasus is noted among older people, i.e. those aged 65+ (52%), respondents with higher education (52%) and respondents with at least average income per capita, i.e. PLN 1,500 or above (52%).

The vast majority of people who came across information about the use of Pegasus in Poland believe that using it in surveillance of political opponents was a manifestation of political struggle (71%). Only a relatively small proportion of respondents (14%) believe that the use of such software in relation to these people was justified by the suspicion that they had committed a crime.

The opinion that the Pegasus software was used in political struggle prevails in all socio-demographic categories, as well as all groups distinguished for political views and party preferences. This view is also shared by a large number of Law and Justice voters (42%).

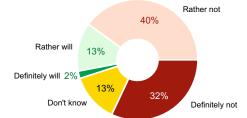
Which opinion is closer to your own view? Do you think that the use of the Pegasus system in surveillance of political opponents:



Answers of people who have heard about the use of the Pegasus system for surveillance of public figures.

Since mid-January, a Special Committee has been operating in the Senate to investigate cases of illegal surveillance. At the same time, the fate of the appointment of a Sejm committee on this matter, which would have investigative powers, is undecided. So far, Poles are sceptical as to whether the use of the Pegasus system by secret services in Poland will be thoroughly explored. Almost three-quarters (72%) of those who have heard about this case do not believe that the matter will be cleared, while only 15% of them count on a thorough examination of the case.

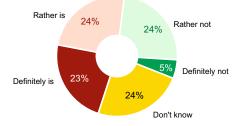
In your opinion, will the use of the Pegasus system by secret services in Poland be thoroughly investigated or not?



Answers of people who have heard about the use of the Pegasus system for surveillance of public figures.

Almost half of all respondents (47%) believe that in Poland there is a problem of abuse by the state (e.g. the police, secret services) of such operational techniques as wiretapping or Internet activity control, while over a quarter (29%) are of the opposite opinion.

Is there a problem in Poland of abusing operational techniques such as wiretapping or Internet activity control by the state (e.g. the police, secret services)?



The prevailing opinion in Polish society is that the use of such operational techniques as wiretapping or Internet activity control in Poland is not sufficiently controlled (44%, vs. 24% who believe that the control is sufficient).

In your opinion, is the use by the state (e.g. the police, special services) of such operational techniques as wiretapping or Internet activity control in Poland:

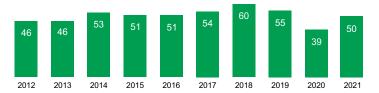


More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Public Opinion on Surveillance", February 2022. Fieldwork for national sample: February 2022, N=1065. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

Holiday travel in 2021

In 2021, half (50%) of adult Poles left their place of permanent residence for holiday for at least two days.

In the past year, did you travel for leisure or tourism for at least 2 days, including at least one overnight stay? Percentage of affirmative answers.

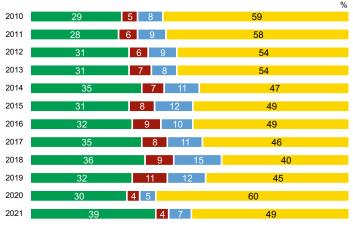


The results of the survey clearly show that after a large drop in 2020, in the following year of the pandemic there was a significant increase in the number of respondents who travelled for leisure or tourism for at least 2 days. While this group is smaller than in the record year 2018 and in the last year before the COVID-19 pandemic, looking from a longer perspective, it can be said that Poles have started to return to their old habits in this regard.

Leisure and holiday trips accompanied by an overnight stay were in 2021 primarily differentiated by the level of education and the related variable, household income. The higher the level of education, the higher the percentage of people going on holiday (from 18% among people with primary or lower secondary education to 77% among university graduates). People from households with a monthly income of at least PLN 2,000 per capita went on holiday most often. Age was also a factor that significantly differentiated the probability of tourist trips. They were most often attended by respondents aged under 55, with highest proportion in the age group 35-44 years old (63% of them left at least once), while the majority of people aged 55+ last year did not leave home on a leisure trip even once. Moreover, the vast majority (75%) of inhabitants of cities with a population of at least 500,000 left. Most dwellers of towns and cities from 20,000 to 499,999 people relaxed in this way, while three-fifths (60%) of rural residents and half (50%) of inhabitants of cities below 20,000 never left their home for leisure.

In the first pandemic year 2020, both domestic and foreign tourism were hit. In 2021, the percentage of Poles who went on a holiday inland even slightly exceeded the level from 2019 (46%, an increase by 11 percentage points in comparison to 2020). Compared to 2020, the number of Poles who went abroad increased to a small extent, by 2 percentage points to 11%. Compared to 2020, the number of respondents resting only in Poland rose (an increase from 30% to 39%), and also slightly more people took advantage of both domestic and foreign trips (an increase from 5% to 7%).

Where did you go on holiday?



Only in Poland

Responses show that in 2021 the most popular tourist destinations for foreign travel for adult Poles were Italy and Croatia, which were visited at least once by 13% and 12%, respectively, of people who travelled abroad for at least two days for tourist purposes. Slightly fewer people visited Turkey, Spain and Greece (respectively 11%, 11% and 10% of those who chose foreign destinations), while 8% visited Egypt or Germany. Bulgaria, Sweden and the Czech Republic were also among the most visited countries (mentioned by 6%, 6% and 5% of those who chose foreign destinations, respectively).

More information about this topic can be found in CBOS report in Polish: "Holiday Trips in 2021 and Plans for 2022", February 2022. Fieldwork for national samples: January 2022, N=1135. The random sample is representative for adult population of Poland.

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