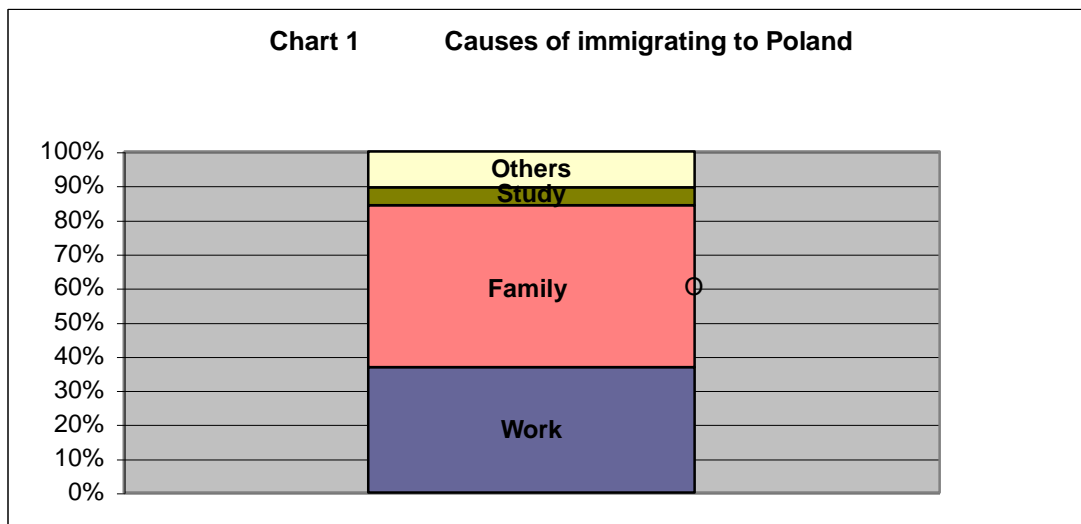


The analysis of the migrations- namely immigration from abroad.

The fact is there are more people wanting to emigrate from Poland rather than immigrate to, therefore it was not easy to collect the data from immigrants concerning the living conditions here and comparing it with their native countries. What is more, we observe an oscillatory migration phenomena of quite a few inhabitants of Upper Silesia, which is connected with the double nationality as well as temporary work in Germany and Holland.

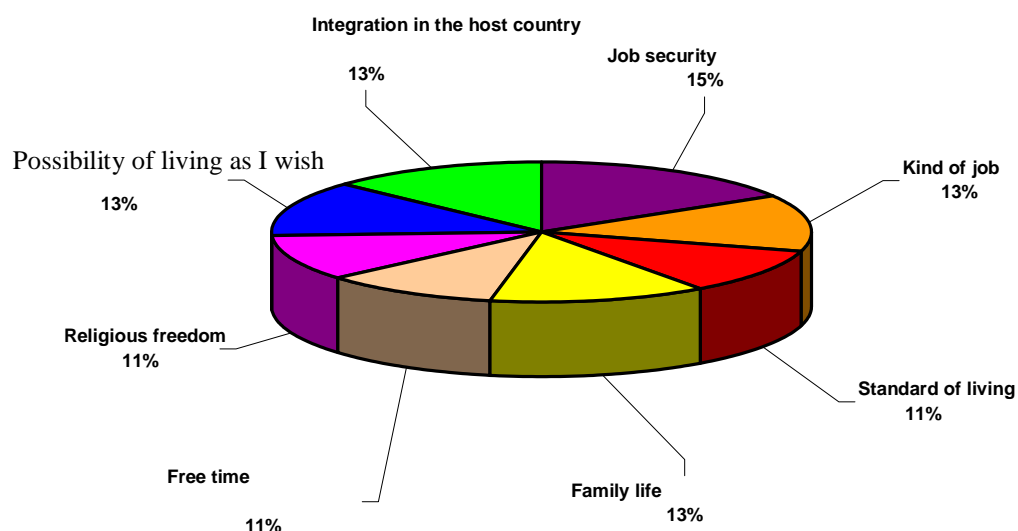
People who took part in our survey come from Ukraine, Germany, former Yugoslavia, Great Britain, France, Canada, Cuba, Mexico, the USA, Taiwan, Egypt. Most of them came to Poland in 1990 or later, only three cases referred to the earlier period one of which concerned World War II.

The main causes for migration were: family (47%), work (36%) and study (5%) (Chart 1)



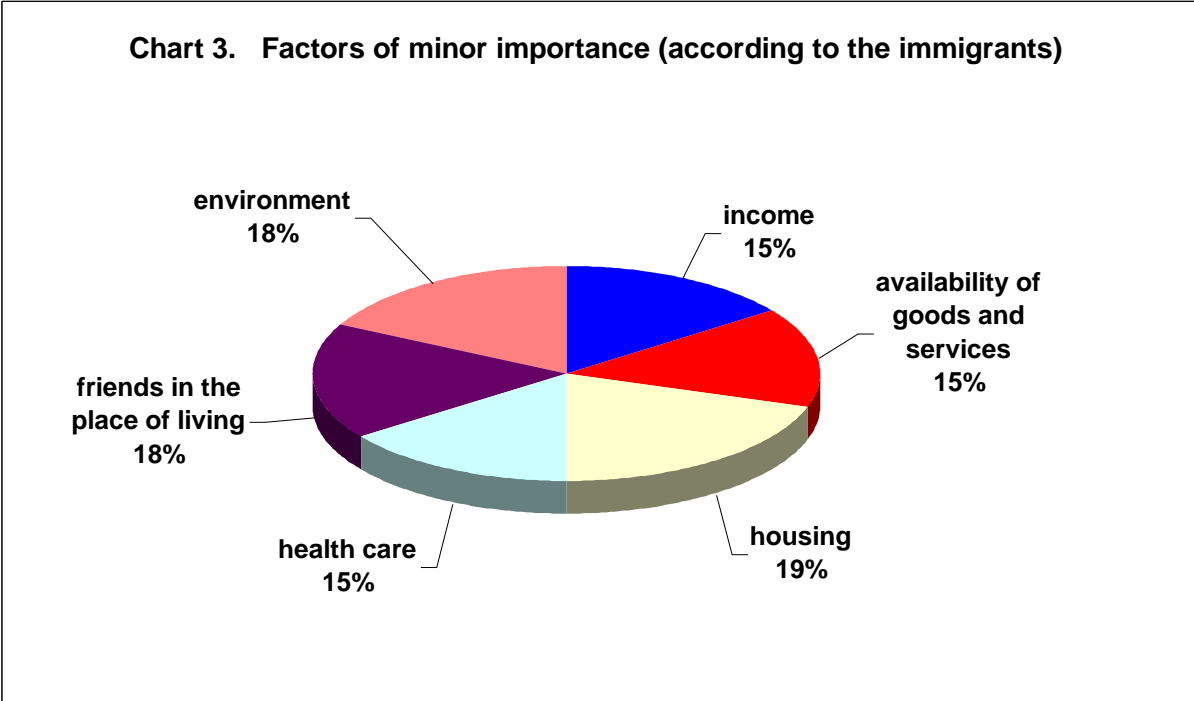
Immigrants indicated a few factors that they consider to have the greatest impact on their life, out of 25 aspects of life they indicated the following:

Chart 2 The importance of the chosen aspects of life according to the immigrants living in Poland at the moment



As far as the vital economic factors are concerned, job security (15%), the kind of job (13%) and the standard of living (11%) were mentioned. Social aspects prove to be equally important: family life (13%), integration in the host country (13%), and what can be surprising – a high importance of religious freedom (11%).

The immigrants named: housing, environment, friends, health care and income as factors of minor importance (chart 3).



Out of 25 aspects of life mentioned in the survey, 20 have been rated better in Poland in comparison with their native country. The immigrants indicate they are pleased with the economic conditions which they have experienced in Poland. That can be seen, for example, in the positive rating of employment safety, kind of work they do and the income (Charts 4, 5, 7). This way the immigrants' living standard improves (Chart 6). Such high rating may be caused by gradual decrease in the economic gap between the countries of Western Europe and Poland. Another reason for such good results may be the very fact that for immigrants from the Eastern Europe for example Ukraine, getting a job here may be quite attractive. Upper Silesia due to the industrial restructuring is the area of development and increase of employment eg. in electro-machine industry and services.

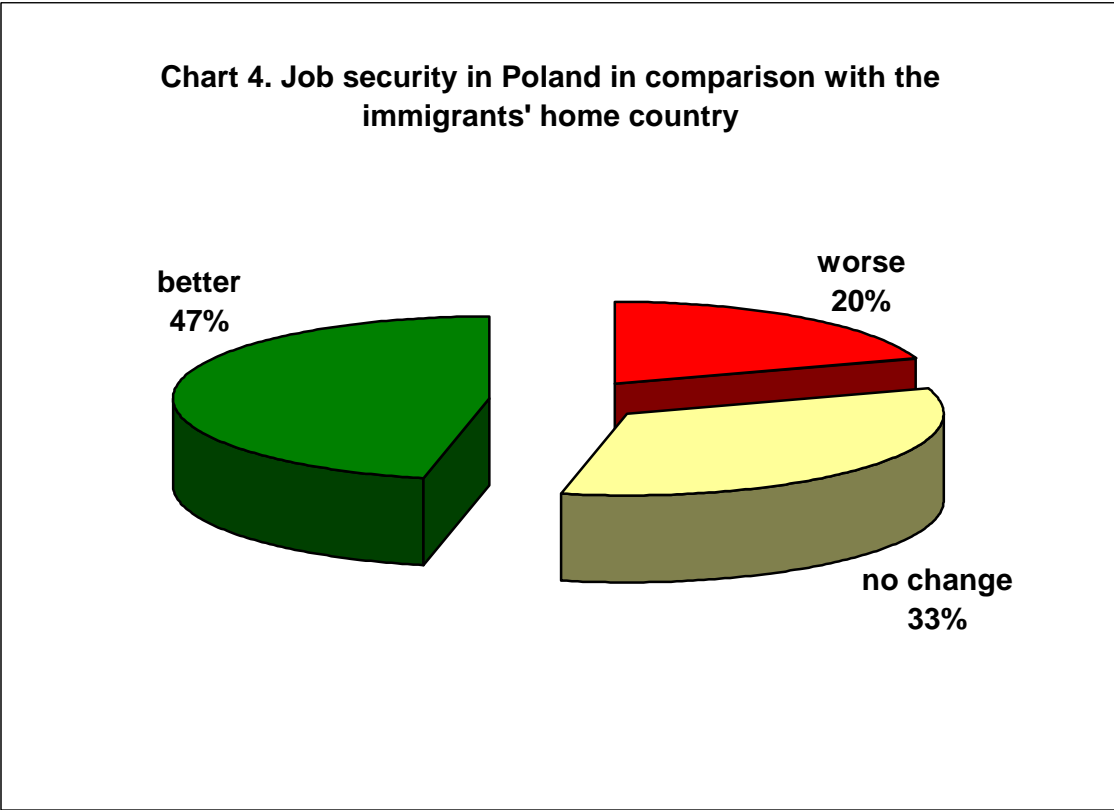


Chart 5. Kind of job in Poland in comparison to the immigrants' home country

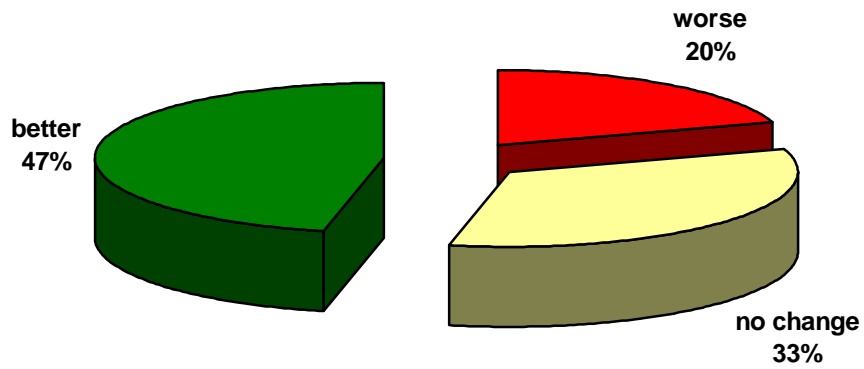


Chart 6. Quality of life (in economic terms) in Poland in comparison with the immigrants' home country

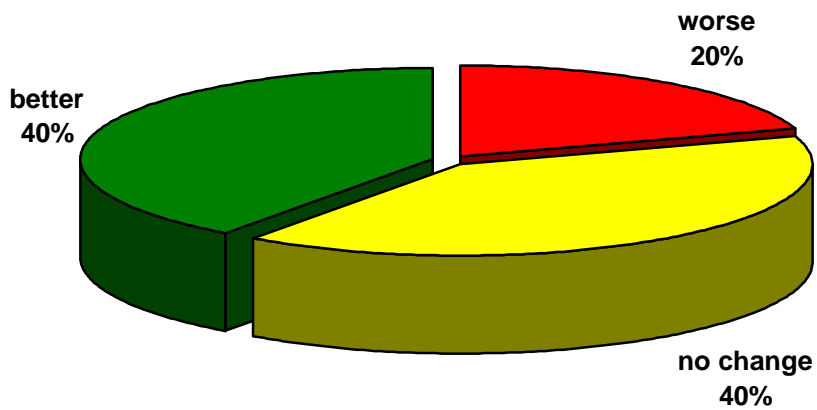
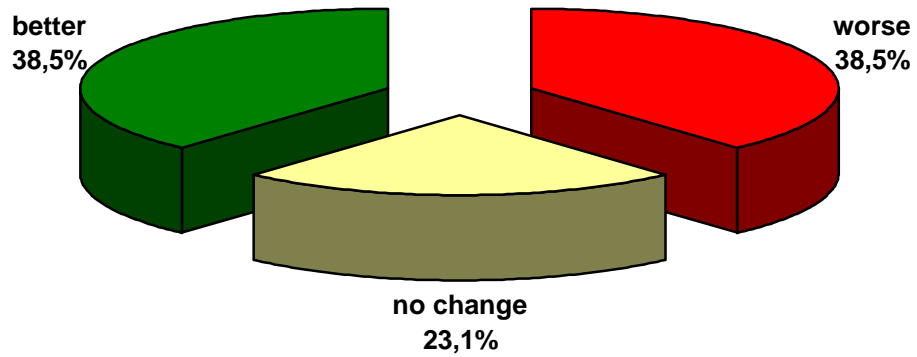


Chart. 7 Income of the immigrants in Poland compared with the home country.



Quite a few foreigners that have decided to settle down in Poland indicate that availability of goods and services is better compared to the one in their native country (chart 8). They also notice that the quality of food products is better here (chart 9)

Chart 8. Availability of goods and services compared with the home country.

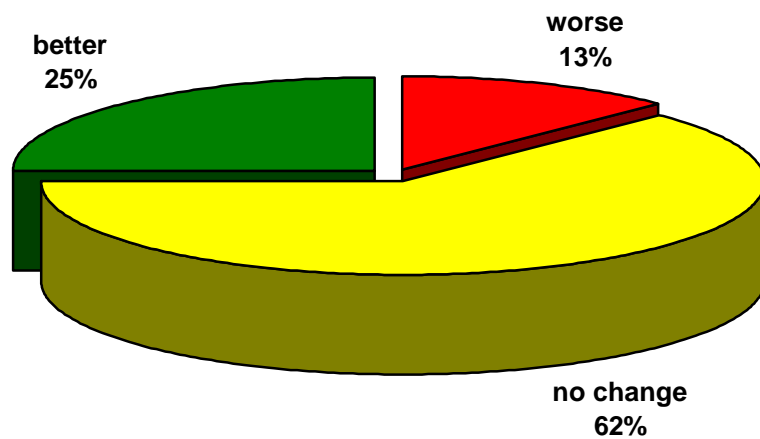
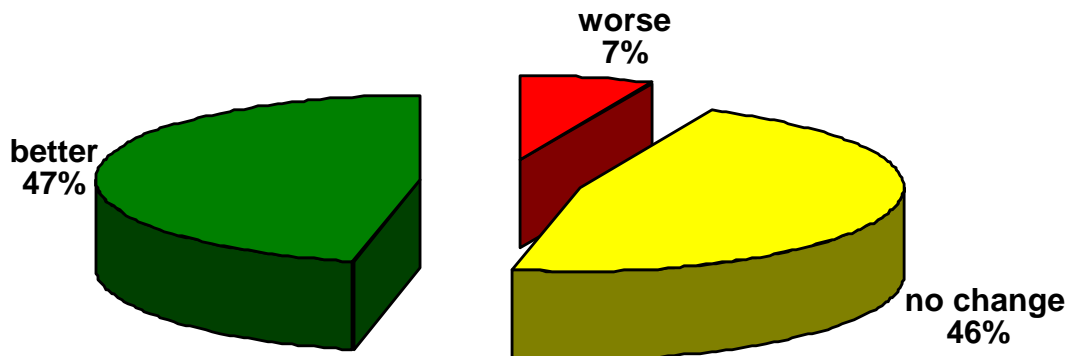


Chart 9. Availability and quality of food products



The results concerning education prove to be quite amazing. On the one hand, immigrants are satisfied with the career opportunities in Poland (chart 10), on the other hand though, they negatively evaluate the aspect of education (chart 11)

Maybe one of the reasons of such apparently contradicting results is the mentioned problem with linguistic abilities and communication. Communication in the language of the host country is vital in the process of education, however fluent English or German can be an undeniable asset for an employee and may increase the opportunities of a well-qualified immigrant to get a post of more importance.

Chart 10. Career opportunities as perceived by immigrants

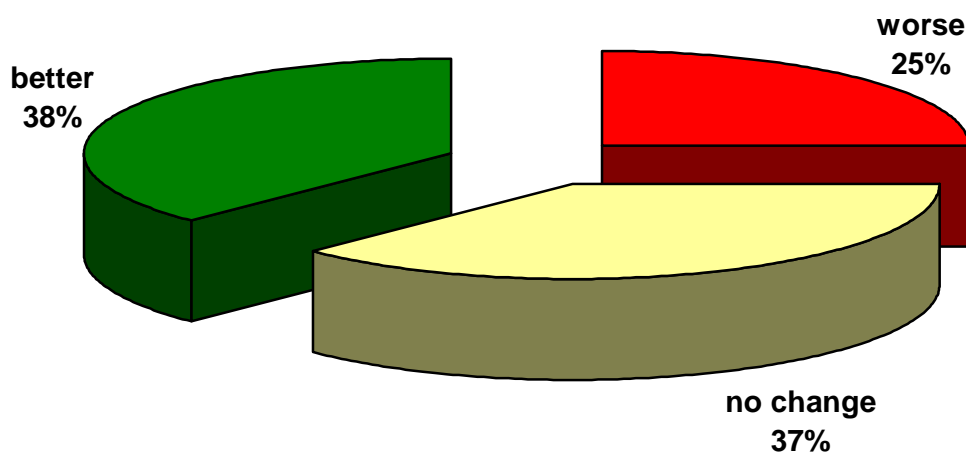
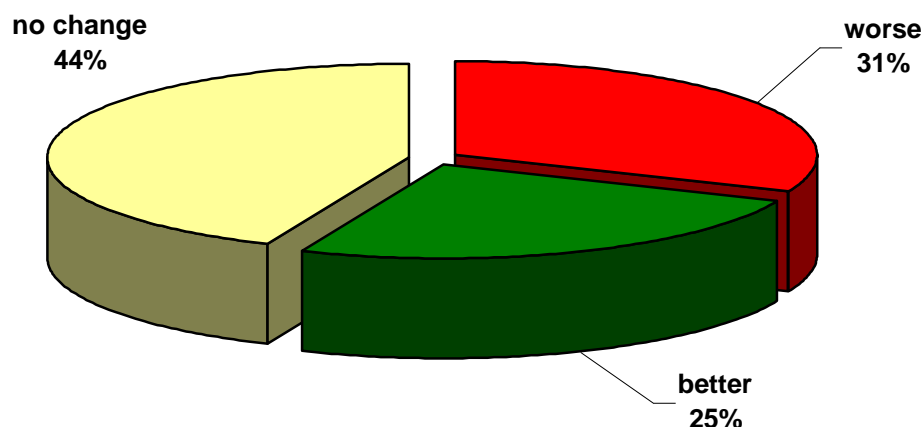


Chart 11. Educational opportunities as perceived by immigrants



Social aspects, especially family, are quite important for every immigrant. Among those who took part in our survey family aspect has turned out to have several dimensions. Firstly, when migrations refer to the situation when the whole family actually emigrates, the negative effects concerning the family bonds are not so destructive. Secondly, the reason for some migrations was the change of the marital status, which involves not only changing the living place but also facing new culture and views. Thirdly, some migrations are intended to be temporary – eg. in case of one parent going abroad to work for a limited time, so maybe not the whole family was taken into consideration.

Foreigners staying in Poland rate the family life and the overall atmosphere connected with it better in Poland than in their home country (chart 12). Maybe they appreciate the traditional hierarchy of values or multi-generational model accepted by some Polish families. On the other hand, they find it difficult to comply or accept the customs in the new country (chart 14).

Effects arising from the emigration of some family members on the rest of the family in the home country seem to be marginalized by the participants of our survey (Chart13). Maybe the decision of emigrating was taken up together with the closest relations and did not involve separation with the immediate family. The bonds with the extended family who stayed in the home country may not be so strong.

Chart 12. Family life and the atmosphere connected with it as perceived by the immigrants

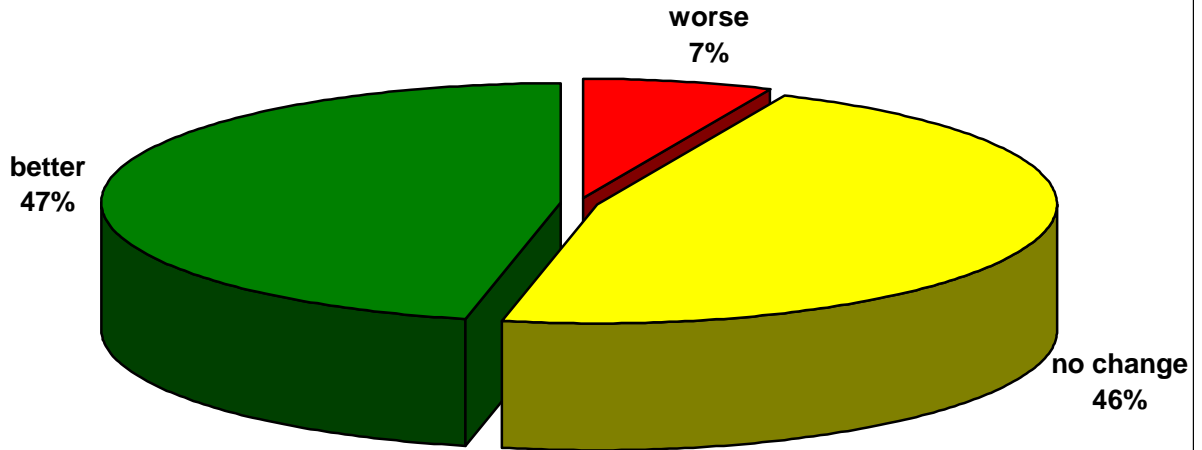


Chart 13. Effects arising from the emigration of some family members on the rest of the family in the home country

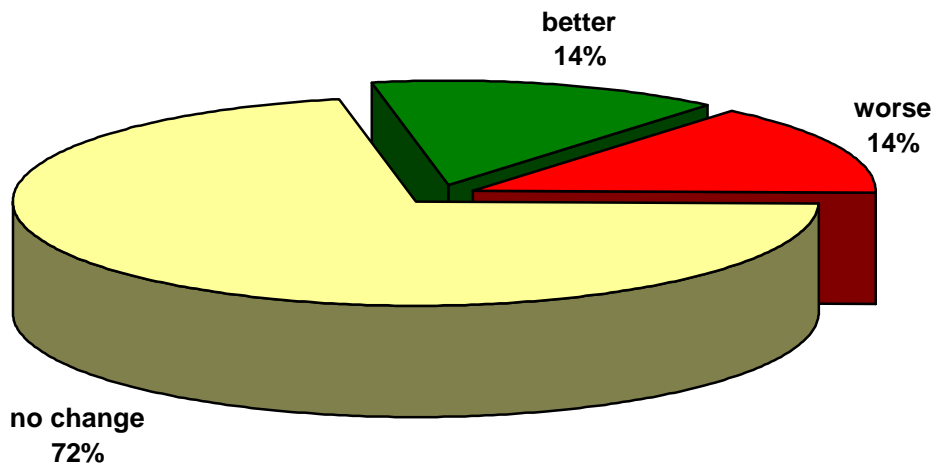
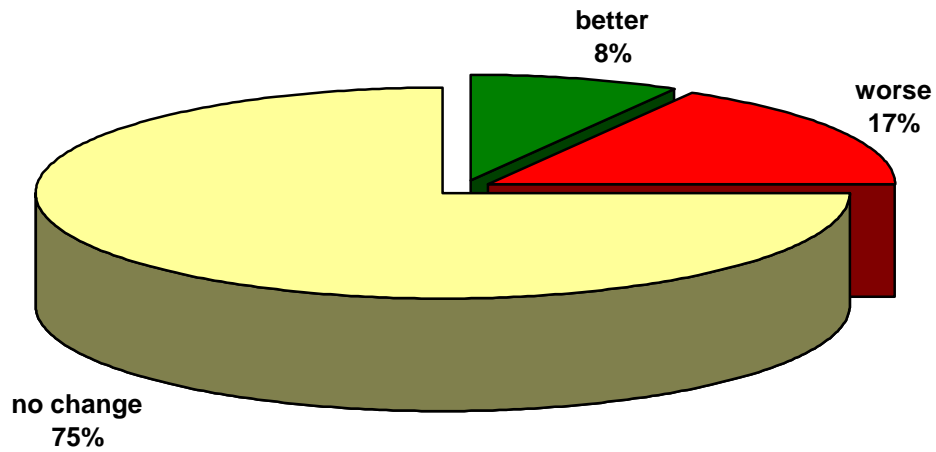
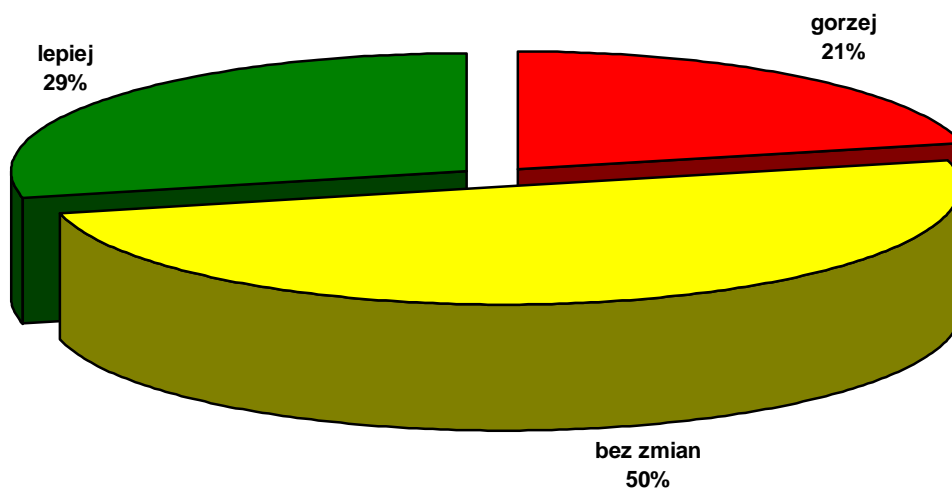


Chart 14. Attitude of the family towards the habits of the "new" country

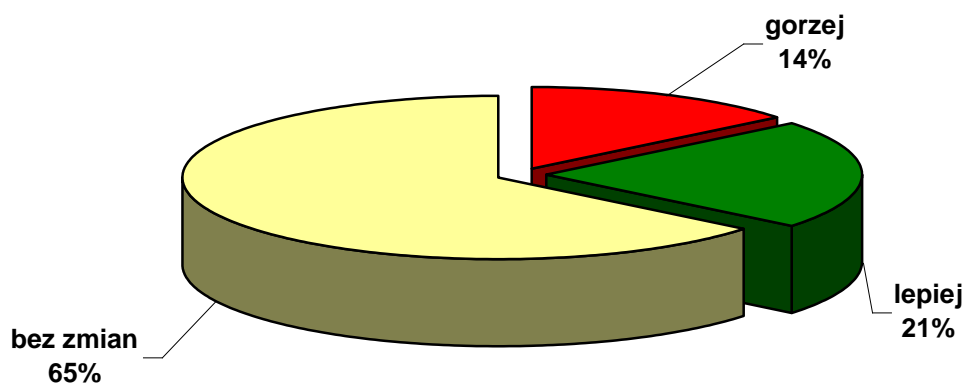


Other aspects of social life, like housing and medical care are also positively rated. Podobnie jak w przypadku kwestii ekonomicznych przyczynia się ona do poprawy jakości życia imigrantów w Polsce.

Ocena warunków zamieszkania przez imigrantów zamieszkujących aktualnie

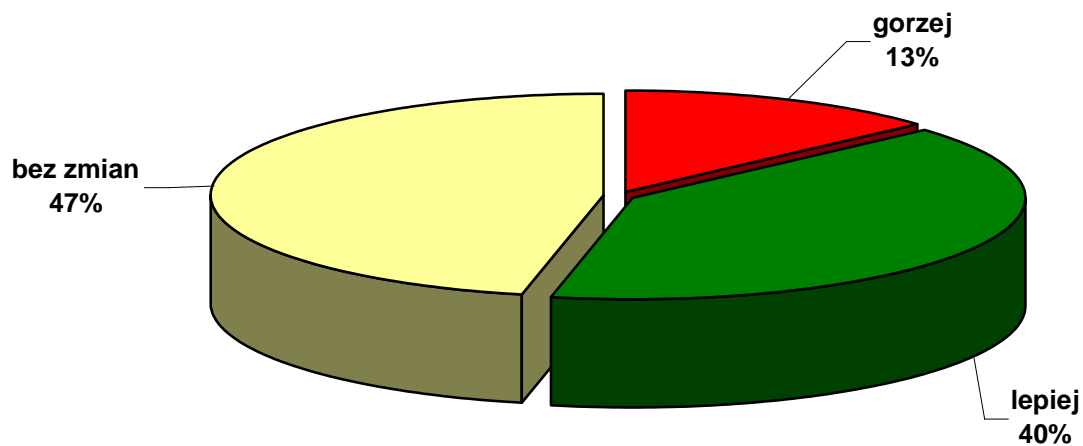


Ocena opieki zdrowotnej przez imigrantów zamieszkujących aktualnie terytorium RP

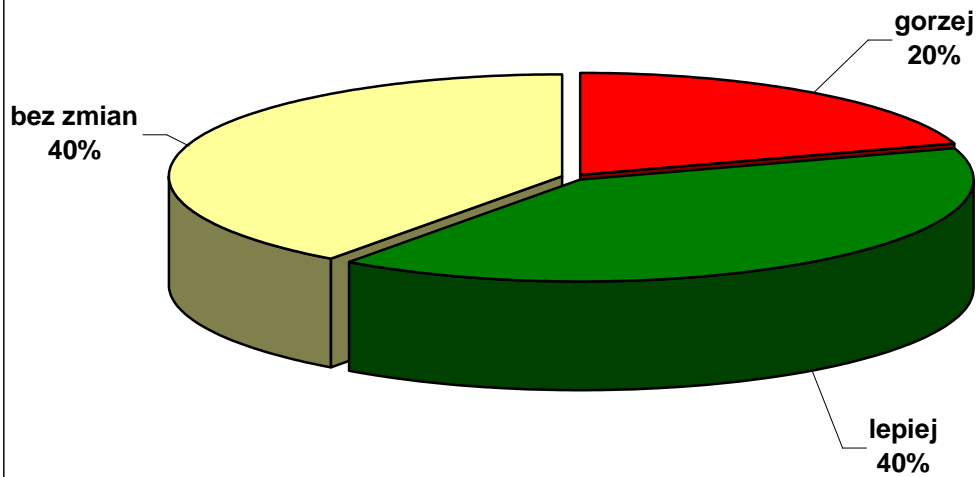


W życiu każdej społeczności ważny jest poprawny rozwój relacji interpersonalnych. Dla osób zmieniających miejsce zamieszkania i przekraczających granice polityczne państw jest to często duża bariera. W przypadku grupy badanych obcokrajowców

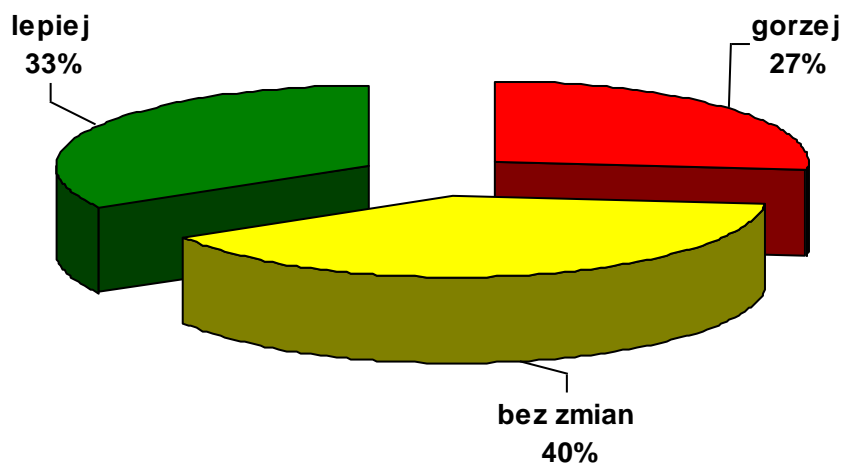
Ocena więzi społecznych przez imigrantów zamieszkujących aktualnie na terenie RP



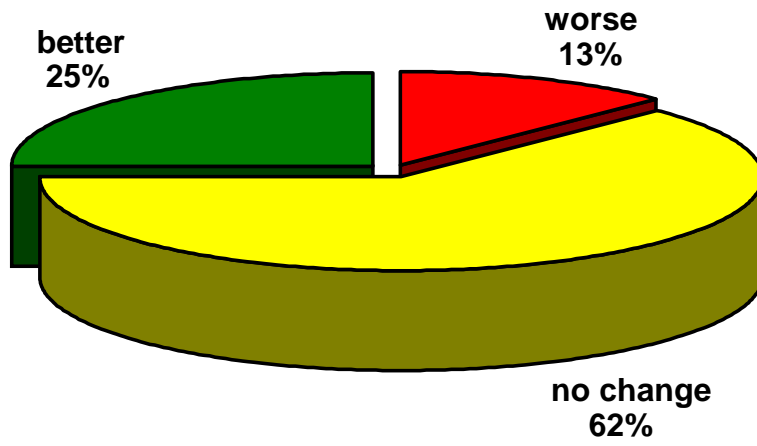
Ocena ilości wolnego czasu przez imigrantów zamieszkujących aktualnie na terenie RP



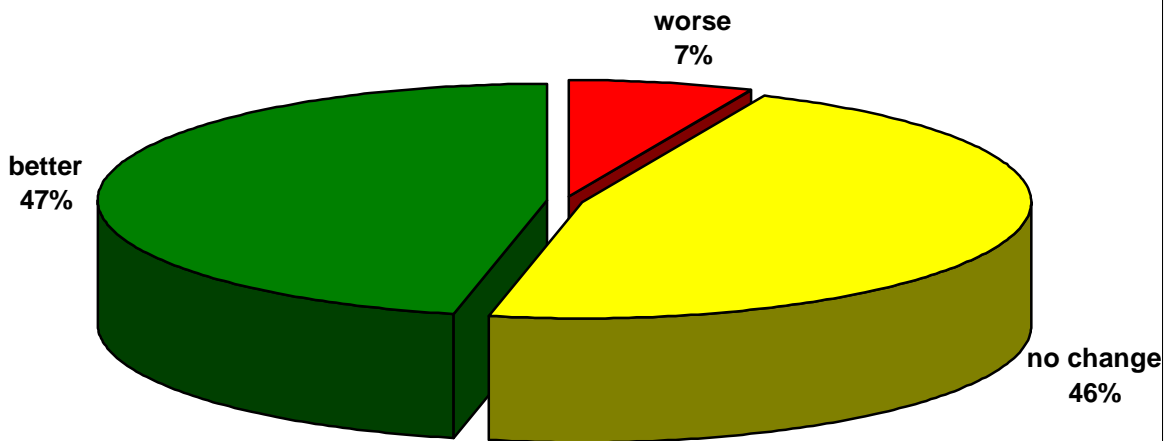
Ocena możliwości wykorzystania czasu wolnego przez imigrantów zamieszkujących obecnie terytorium RP

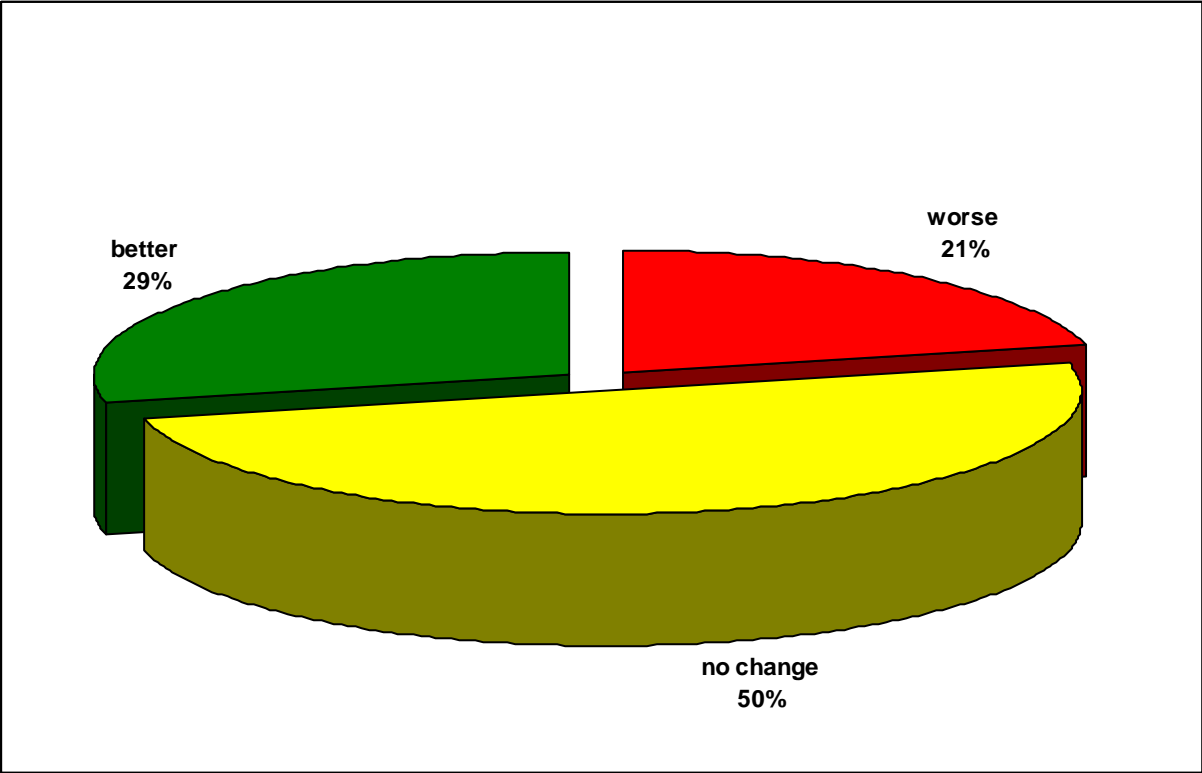


Availability of goods and services

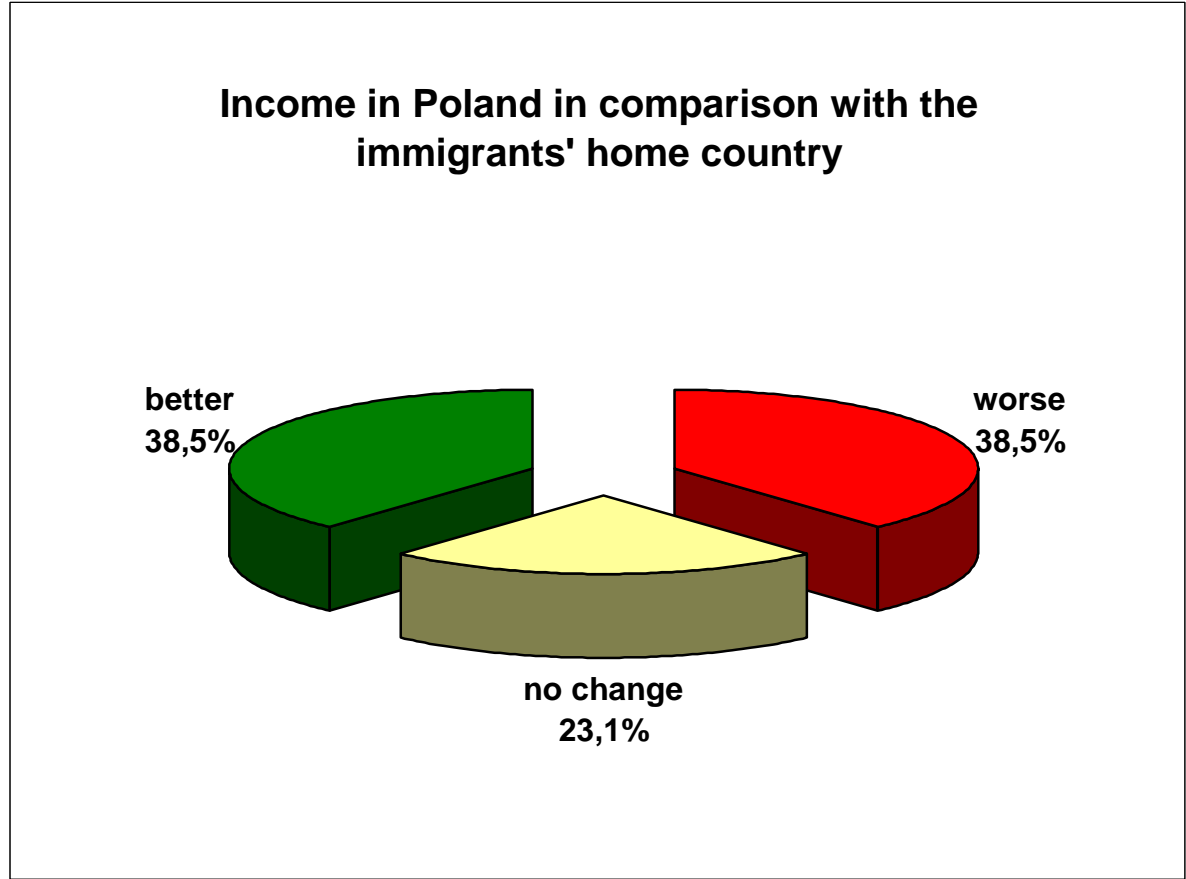


Family life





Income in Poland in comparison with the immigrants' home country



Job security
Kind of job
Career opportunities
Income
Quality of life (in economic terms)
Availability of goods and services
General family life, atmosphere
Housing
Health care
Educational opportunities
Friends in the new place
Amount of free time
Leisure opportunities
Food products (availability, quality...)
Linguistic ability, communication with other people
Environment
Political and social stability
Freedom of expression (political views, etc...)
Religious freedom
Availability of news via TV, newspapers, internet...
Attitude of the family towards the habits of the "new" country
Possibility of living as I wish
Knowledge of the culture of the host country
Effects arising from the emigration of some family members on the rest of the family in the home country
Integration in the host country